

# Borough of Worthing



## ANNUAL REPORT

on the

## HEALTH OF WORTHING

for the Year

# 1972

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J. A. G. GRAHAM

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

*Medical Officer of Health*

*and*

*Borough School Medical Officer*

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
WORTHING LODGE,  
STOKE ABBOTT ROAD,  
WORTHING.

(TELEPHONE: WORTHING 37802).



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# C O N T E N T S

	<i>Page</i>
Preface ... ..	3
Committees ... ..	4
Staff ... ..	5

## PART I

Statistics ... ..	8
Births ... ..	9
Deaths ... ..	10
Infectious Disease ... ..	14
Meteorology ... ..	19

## PART II

### Personal Health Services

Care of Mothers and Young Children	34
Notification of Births ... ..	34
Child Health Centres ... ..	34
Toddler Clinics ... ..	35
Congenital Abnormalities ... ..	35
Care of Premature Babies ... ..	36
Phenylketonuria ... ..	36
Ante-natal Clinics ... ..	36
Dental Clinics ... ..	36
Other Clinic Facilities ... ..	37
Midwifery ... ..	38
Health Visiting ... ..	40
Home Nursing ... ..	40
Vaccination and Immunisation ... ..	41
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care ... ..	42
Screening Clinics ... ..	43
Health Education ... ..	43
Chiropody ... ..	45
Family Planning ... ..	46
Private Nursing Homes ... ..	48
Private Homes for the Elderly or Disabled ... ..	48
Day Centre for the Elderly ... ..	48
National Assistance Act, 1948, Sections 47 and 50 ... ..	49
Staff Medical Examinations ... ..	49

## PART III

### Environmental Health Services

	<i>Page</i>
General Inspections ... ..	52
Housing ... ..	53
Rent Control ... ..	54
Caravans and Camping ... ..	55
Clean Air ... ..	55
Food Sampling ... ..	56
Food Complaints ... ..	58
General Food Inspection ... ..	60
Meat Inspection ... ..	61
Diseases of Animals Acts ... ..	62
Milk Sampling ... ..	63
Ice Cream ... ..	63
Poultry Inspection ... ..	64
General Food Premises ... ..	64
Food Vehicles and Stalls ... ..	65
Noise ... ..	65
Rodent Control ... ..	67
General Pest Control ... ..	68
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 ... ..	69
Factories Act, 1961 ... ..	70
Worthing Crematorium ... ..	71
Mortuary ... ..	71
Drainage, Sewerage and Refuse Dipsosal ... ..	72
Water Supplies ... ..	72
Swimming Baths ... ..	73

## PART IV

### School Health Service

School Population ... ..	76
Medical Inspections ... ..	76
Medical Treatment ... ..	78
Minor Ailments Clinic ... ..	78
Physiotherapy Clinic ... ..	78
Eye Clinic ... ..	78
Orthoptic Clinic ... ..	79
Speech Therapy Clinic ... ..	79
Child Guidance Clinic ... ..	79
Obesity Clinic ... ..	80
Enuresis Clinic ... ..	81
Dental Inspection and Treatment ... ..	81
Handicapped Pupils ... ..	82
Other Services ... ..	83
Infectious Disease in School Children ... ..	84
Deaths of School Children ... ..	84
Road Accidents to School Children ... ..	84



HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
WORTHING LODGE,  
STOKE ABBOTT ROAD,  
WORTHING.

December, 1973.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Worthing.*

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1972 on the health of the people of Worthing. This will be the eleventh such report I have made since my appointment as your Medical Officer of Health in November, 1962. It will also be my last, for by the time these words are printed the life of your Council will be drawing to its close.

The long planned reorganisation of the National Health Service will come into existence on 1st April, 1974, and on that date the office of Medical Officer of Health will cease to exist. In his place will be the "Community Physician" with wide-ranging responsibilities over the whole field of community health. He will serve the new health authorities which take over from the present tripartite system. The future tasks are daunting but not insuperable, and despite the prolonged gestation the new creation will inherit a fund of goodwill which holds out the promise of a healthy future.

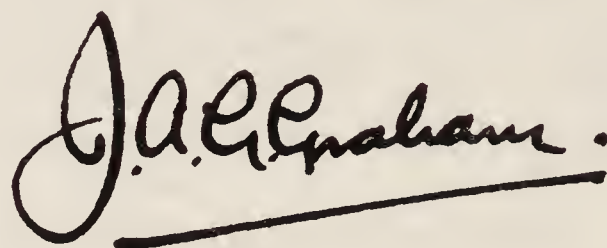
There will be 115 staff of this department who will transfer to the new West Sussex Area Health Authority on the appointed day. But two will not; for they retired towards the end of this year after a life-time of service in public health. I should like to pay tribute to them both:

Dr. John Aitken, deputy medical officer of health and deputy school medical officer for this borough since 1941, retired on 26th October—his 65th birthday. In his early years here Dr. Aitken's work was largely clinical and included responsibility for patients with infectious disease in what was then Swandean Isolation Hospital. More recently his duties extended into other spheres, especially in the School Health Service and the assessment and care of handicapped children. In this field he became a recognised expert and his advice was frequently sought by his colleagues, not only in the public health service, but in hospital and general medical practice.

Tom Canton, chief clerk for the health department, also took up his option of retirement this year after nearly forty-four years in Local Government, thirty of which were with Worthing Corporation. Among his many duties were those of meteorological observer, and his detailed reports of rain-fall, sunshine, wind velocity, etc. have appeared regularly in these annual reports. But he will perhaps be best remembered as Worthing's "weather man" whose contributions were often featured in our local newspapers.

To both these colleagues we wish good health and a long and happy retirement.

Finally, I should like to acknowledge the help I have received throughout the past eleven years, not only from the professional and clerical staff of this department, but from my colleagues in other departments of the Borough Council. I should like to mention also the courtesy I have always received in my dealings with general practitioners, hospital staff and members of voluntary organisations. I have been singularly fortunate too in the invaluable backing given me over the years by the chairmen and members of the Health and Education Committees. You have never failed to give your Medical Officer of Health encouragement and support and this has been greatly appreciated.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J.A. C. Graham." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

*Medical Officer of Health and  
Borough School Medical Officer.*

## HEALTH COMMITTEE

(at 31st December, 1972)

COUNCILLOR S. C. ELLIOTT (*Chairman*)

ALDERMAN MRS. H. M. PERYER (*Vice-Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR A. E. DUNNING  
(*Mayor*)

COUNCILLOR T. H. N. AYSCOUGH

COUNCILLOR R. P. COOK

COUNCILLOR D. I. E. EDWARDS

COUNCILLOR W. D. FITZGERALD

COUNCILLOR MRS. W. M. FRAMPION

COUNCILLOR P. G. W. JACKSON

COUNCILLOR MRS. N. M. LEPHARD

COUNCILLOR V. J. MILLER

COUNCILLOR H. W. REFOY

## WORTHING COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

(as on the 31st December, 1972)

COUNCILLOR H. E. WESTON (*Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR R. P. COOK (*Vice-Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR A. E. DUNNING  
(*Mayor*)

ALDERMAN R. EDWARDS

ALDERMAN F. KENTON

ALDERMAN S. M. KNIGHT, J.P.

ALDERMAN MRS. H. M. PERYER

COUNCILLOR F. J. CHAPMAN

COUNCILLOR S. C. ELLIOTT

COUNCILLOR H. E. FAIR

COUNCILLOR D. HILL, F.A.D.O.

COUNCILLOR V. J. MILLER

COUNCILLOR H. W. REFOY

COUNCILLOR P. H. THOMAS

COUNCILLOR E. L. WALTER

### *West Sussex County Council Members:*

COUNTY ALDERMAN L. A. FOSTER

COUNTY ALDERMAN C. P. MASON, M.B.E.

COUNTY ALDERMAN A. G. W. PENNEY

COUNTY COUNCILLOR D. S. W. BLACKER

*Co-opted:* MR. C. J. T. CABLE-ROBBIE, MR. L. FUHRMANN, MRS. J. L. WYATT

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE SUB-COMMITTEE

(as on the 31st December, 1972)

COUNCILLOR R. P. COOK (*Chairman*)

ALDERMAN R. EDWARDS

ALDERMAN F. KENTON

ALDERMAN MRS. H. M. PERYER

COUNCILLOR S. C. ELLIOTT

COUNCILLOR P. H. THOMAS

COUNCILLOR H. E. WESTON

MRS. J. L. WYATT



## **STAFF :**

(at 31st December, 1972)

### **Medical Officer of Health and Borough School Medical Officer**

J. A. G. GRAHAM, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

### **Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Borough School Medical Officer**

J. C. AITKEN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

### **Departmental Medical Officer and School Medical Officer**

A. LOWRY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

### **Chief Public Health Inspector**

J. R. DAVENPORT, F.A.P.H.I.

### **Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector**

M. BLAKE, M.A.P.H.I.

### **District Public Health Inspectors**

P. E. BAVERSTOCK, M.A.P.H.I.

J. E. FANNON, M.A.P.H.I.

L. A. BIGGS, M.A.P.H.I.

D. LINDSAY, M.A.P.H.I.

P. E. CHATTELLE, M.A.P.H.I.

D. L. OAKES, M.A.P.H.I.

### **Area Dental Officer**

D. E. GIBBONS, B.D.S., L.D.S., D.D.P.H., R.C.S.(ENG.)

### **Dental Officer—Mobile Unit**

(Vacancy)

### **Consultant Physician in Geriatric Medicine**

\*R. B. FRANKS, M.B., M.R.C.P.

### **Consultant Ophthalmologist**

\*A. LYTTON, F.R.C.S., D.O.

### **Consultant Psychiatrist**

\*M. ALDRIDGE, B.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.M.

### **Area Nursing Officer and Superintendent Health Visitor**

MISS M. NASH, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.CERT., DIP.SOC.SCIENCE

### **Health Education Organiser**

MISS V. K. JONES, S.R.N., R.N.T., M.I.H.E.

**Health Visitors** (15 F/T; 1 P/T)

**Domiciliary Midwives** (1)

**Domiciliary Nurses** (27)

**Nursing Auxiliaries** (11)

### **Chief Chiropodist**

E. JONES, S.R.N., M.C.S.P., M.CH.S., S.R.CH.

### **Senior Chiropodists**

J. ALEXANDER, M.CH.S., S.R.CH.

E. ATHERTON, M.CH.S., S.R.CH.

S. KNIGHT

M.C.S.P., S.R.P., M.CH.S., S.R.CH.

MISS J. M. WILSON, S.R.CH.

### **Orthoptist**

\*MISS H. WISE, D.B.O.

### **Physiotherapist**

(Vacancy)

### **Speech Therapist**

(Vacancy)

### **Chief Clerk**

T. L. CANTON

(Clerks 11 F/T; 9 P/T)

### **Other Staff**

Clinic Medical Officers:—

\*Child Health (1)

\*Cytology (1)

\*Family Planning (7)

\*Social Centre Canteen Assistants (2)

Rodent Operators (2)

General Assistant (1)

\*Clinic Nurses (7)

\*Dental Receptionist/Clerk (1)

Dental Surgery Assistants (2)

Social Centre Hostess (1)

Student Public Health Inspectors (3)

Mortuary Attendant (1)

\*Equipment Technician

\*Part-time



# **Part I.**

## **STATISTICS INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND METEOROLOGY**

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Municipal Borough, including foreshore .. ..	8512.742 acres
Population (Census 1921) .. .. .	31,520
Population (Census 1931) .. .. .	46,230
Population (Census 1951) .. .. .	69,431
Population (Census 1961) .. .. .	80,329
Population (Census 1966—10% sample) .. .. .	approx. 83,900
Population (Census 1971) .. .. .	88,407
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (1972)	89,090
Number of inhabited Houses (1921) .. .. .	7,013
Number of inhabited Houses (1972) .. .. .	36,500
Rateable Value (1972) .. .. .	£6,148,922
Estimated sum represented by a 1p rate (1971-72) .. ..	£59,700

### Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid year population in 1972 (89,090) has been used throughout this report to calculate rates. The corresponding figure for 1971 was 87,780.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Vital statistics for 1972 relating to mothers and infants are set out below in the form and detail requested by the Department of Health and Social Security.

#### *Live Births:*

Number .. .. .	825	(862)
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted) .. .. .	13.6	(15.9)

<i>Illegitimate Live Births</i> (per cent. of total live births) ..	7.7	(7.1)
---	-----	-------

#### *Stillbirths:*

Number .. .. .	7	(10)
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths .. .. .	8.4	(11.0)

<i>Total Live and Stillbirths</i> .. .. .	832	(872)
---	-----	-------

<i>Infant Deaths</i> (deaths under 1 year) .. .. .	16	(15)
--	----	------

#### *Infant mortality rates:*

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births .. .. .	19.4	(17.3)
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	19.7	(17.5)
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	15.6	(16.4)

#### *Neo-natal mortality rate:*

(Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births) ..	12.1	(10.4)
--	------	--------

#### *Early Neo-natal mortality rate:*

(Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births) ..	9.7	(9.3)
--	-----	-------

#### *Peri-natal mortality rate:*

(Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) .. .. .	18.0	(20.6)
---	------	--------

#### *Maternal mortality* (including abortions):

Number of deaths .. .. .	1	(—)
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths .. .. .	1.2	(0.0)

(The figures in brackets relate to 1971)

## BIRTHS

Live births to Worthing mothers in 1972 numbered 825 (412 boys and 413 girls). These figures refer to occurrences during the year and not to the unnumber of registrations or notifications (see page 34).

This was 37 less than in the previous year. The crude live birth rate per 1,000 of the population was 9.3, which after multiplication by the Registrar-General's comparability factor of 1.46, gives an adjusted live birth rate of 13.6. This compares with 15.9 in Worthing in 1971 and with the national figure of 14.8 for 1972.

The table below shows the number of live births in Worthing during the past 10 years and compares the adjusted live birth rates with the national figures:—

Year	Live Births	Live Birth Rate* (adjusted)	Live Birth Rate* (England and Wales)
1963	856	16.3	18.2
1964	921	17.3	18.5
1965	933	17.4	18.1
1966	918	17.2	17.7
1967	930	17.5	17.2
1968	889	17.3	16.9
1969	865	16.8	16.3
1970	864	16.7	16.0
1971	862	15.9	16.0
1972	825	13.6	14.8

\* per 1,000 population

## Illegitimate births

There were 64 illegitimate live births in 1972 (31 boys and 33 girls). This was 7.7% of the total live births, an increase of 0.6% over the previous year.

Year	Illegitimate Live Births	% of Total of Live Births	Corresponding % for W. Sussex	Corresponding % for England and Wales
1963	56	6.6	5.8	6.9
1964	67	7.3	6.3	7.2
1965	81	8.7	6.8	7.7
1966	79	8.6	7.1	7.9
1967	98	10.5	7.9	8.4
1968	96	10.8	7.5	8.5
1969	82	9.5	7.5	8.0
1970	58	6.7	7.0	8.0
1971	61	7.1	7.1	8.0
1972	64	7.7	6.8	9.0



# DEATHS

Registered deaths of Worthing residents again topped the 2,000 mark in 1972. After allowing for inward transfers (356 deaths of residents outside the Borough) and outward transfers (322 deaths of non-residents in the Borough), Worthing's final allocation by the Registrar-General was 2,176 (905 males and 1,271 females). This was 113 more than in the previous year and gave the town a crude death rate of 24.4 per 1,000 of the population. After multiplying this by the comparability factor of 0.41 the adjusted death rate becomes 10.0, and this figure can be compared with the national and other local rates. The table below shows the total number of deaths from all causes in the past 10 years and compares the adjusted death rates with those for England and Wales.

Year	Deaths (all causes)	Death Rate* (adjusted)	Death Rate* (England and Wales)
1963	1,934	11.4	12.2
1964	1,772	10.3	11.3
1965	1,895	10.3	11.5
1966	1,885	10.0	11.7
1967	1,969	10.6	11.2
1968	2,106	10.9	11.9
1969	2,055	10.6	11.9
1970	2,145	10.7	11.7
1971	2,063	9.9	11.6
1972	2,176	10.0	12.1

\* per 1,000 population

## Deaths by age group:

1,409 or 64.7% of all deaths were in the age group 75 years and over, compared with 64.3% in 1971. The following table analyses the deaths further into age groups by sex:—

Age group	Deaths from all causes		
	Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks .. .. .	4	6	10
4 weeks and under 1 year .. .. .	4	2	6
1-4 years ... .. .	1	3	4
5-14 years .. .. .	3	2	5
15-24 years .. .. .	1	1	2
25-34 years .. .. .	6	2	8
35-44 years .. .. .	4	13	17
45-54 years .. .. .	28	19	47
55-64 years .. .. .	87	74	161
65-74 years .. .. .	274	233	507
75 years and over .. .. .	493	916	1,409
Total: all ages .. .. .	905	1,271	2,176

The details set out below are taken from figures issued by the General Register Office:—

Cause of death	Males	Females	Total
Late effects of Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, Etc. ...	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ...	2	4	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	21	13	34
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine ...	23	43	66
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx ...	3	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	62	16	78
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ...	—	48	48
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	—	10	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate ...	17	—	17
Leukaemia ...	8	3	11
Other Diseases of Blood ...	—	3	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms ...	54	59	113
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...	2	4	6
Diabetes Mellitus ...	4	6	10
Other Endocrine, Etc., Diseases ...	—	1	1
Anaemias ...	2	3	5
Mental Disorders ...	1	1	2
Meningitis ...	—	1	1
Multiple Sclerosis ...	2	2	4
Other Diseases of Nervous System, Etc. ...	7	8	15
Avitaminoses ...	1	—	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease... ..	2	6	8
Hypertensive Disease ...	13	12	25
Ischaemic Heart Disease ...	298	400	698
Other forms of Heart Disease ...	57	99	156
Cerebrovascular Disease ...	140	316	456
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ...	38	40	78
Influenza ...	5	7	12
Pneumonia ...	39	48	87
Bronchitis and Emphysema ...	37	21	58
Asthma ...	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	14	10	24
Peptic Ulcer ...	5	9	14
Appendicitis ...	—	2	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia ...	5	5	10
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	—	2	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System ...	5	13	18
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	5	—	5
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System ...	7	10	17
Other Complications of Pregnancy ...	—	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ...	—	9	9
Congenital Anomalies ...	2	5	7
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc. ...	1	3	4
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ...	1	1	2
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions ...	4	4	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	7	4	11
All Other Accidents ...	5	9	14
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ...	2	5	7
All Other External Causes ...	—	2	2
TOTALS ...	905	1271	2176

### Stillbirths and infant mortality:

There were 7 stillbirths in 1972 (three fewer than in 1971) and 16 infant deaths under one year (15 in 1971). Of the 16 infant deaths during 1972 8 occurred within the first 3 days of life.

Prematurity was a factor in many of these infant deaths though it was only recorded as the main cause in two cases. Two babies died from the



results of a brain haemorrhage and two from “respiratory distress syndrome”. Death was attributed to asphyxia in one instance and one 5 week old child died from shock following extensive burns. In four cases congenital defects of various kinds resulted in death within a few days and four babies aged between 9 and 17 weeks died from what is now becoming known as “sudden unexpected death in infancy syndrome”. This is sometimes called a “cot death” and characteristically occurs without any warning in an apparently healthy baby. At post-mortem nothing of any significance is discovered and a satisfactory explanation has yet to be found. It cannot be predicted or prevented and no blame can be laid at the door of the doctor or parents. In these distressing cases health visitors do their best to reassure the bereaved family (and their neighbours) that the tragedy is in no way their fault.

Figures for perinatal mortality, i.e. stillbirths and deaths in the first week of life, give a better indication of the hazards of being born than do the simple infant mortality rates. The following table compares the Worthing figures with those for England and Wales in the past five years:—

Year	No. of stillbirths	No. of deaths in first week	Perinatal mortality rate*	Corresponding rate for England and Wales*
1968	14	4	19.9	25.0
1969	13	8	23.7	23.0
1970	6	11	19.5	23.0
1971	10	8	20.6	22.0
1972	7	8	18.0	22.0

\* per 1,000 total live and stillbirths

### Deaths from Heart Disease:

Disease of the heart was again the commonest of all causes of death. Of the 2,176 deaths it was the cause in 879 cases (male 368 and female 511). It represented 40.0 per cent. of the total deaths from all causes and was equivalent to a death rate of 9.9 per 1,000 of the population.

The table below shows the number of deaths from heart disease and the rates per 1,000 of the population in the past 5 years.

Year	Ischaemic heart disease			Hypertensive disease		Other (including rheumatic) heart disease		Total	Rate per 1,000 of the population
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	M.	F.		
1968	272	310	582	5	15	48	115	765	9.2
1969	288	348	636	5	6	33	92	772	9.3
1970	276	375	651	8	12	45	119	835	9.9
1971	300	362	662	9	11	40	105	827	9.4
1972	278	400	698	13	12	57	99	879	9.9

Ischaemic heart disease includes “coronary thrombosis,” “cardiac infarction,” “angina,” etc., and deaths from these causes continue to rise. For the fifth year running there were more deaths among women than men. This was, however, only true in the age group 75 years and over, and must therefore be mainly a reflection of the much larger numbers of females in the town who live to this age or more. At the 1971 census there were 9,805 females in this age group, but only 3,730 males.



Deaths from cerebro-vascular disease and other diseases of the circulatory system:

Together such deaths numbered 534 (178 males and 356 females) and were second only to heart disease as the commonest cause. This is a rate of 6.0 per 1,000 of the population and constituted 24.5% of the total number of deaths in Worthing during the year.

456 of these 534 deaths were due to cerebro-vascular disease, and include all deaths from strokes caused by cerebral haemorrhage, cerebral thrombosis, etc.

Deaths from Cancer

Cancer was the third commonest cause of death in 1972. The total of 387 deaths (186 males and 201 females) was 15 more than in 1971, and formed 17.8% of deaths from all causes. The death rate per 1,000 of the population had increased slightly to 4.31, but was about double that for England and Wales (2.42). The age structure of Worthing's population accounts for this.

The table below shows the number of cancer deaths, the rates per 1,000 of the population and the percentage of total deaths in the past five years. The figures differ a little from similar tables in previous years as they now include deaths from leukaemia.

Year	Number of deaths	Rate per 1,000 of the population	% of total deaths
1968	365	4.39	17.3
1969	380	4.57	18.5
1970	388	4.61	18.1
1971	372	4.24	18.0
1972	387	4.31	17.8

The localisation of the disease was as follows:—

Localisation				No. of deaths		
				Male	Female	Total
Buccal Cavity	..	..	..	2	1	3
Oesophagus	..	..	..	2	4	6
Stomach	..	..	..	21	13	34
Intestine	..	..	..	23	43	66
Larynx	..	..	..	3	—	3
Lung, Bronchus	..	..	..	62	16	78
Breast	..	..	..	—	48	48
Uterus	..	..	..	—	10	10
Prostate	..	..	..	17	—	17
Leukaemia	..	..	..	—	3	3
Other	..	..	..	56	63	119
Total				186	201	387

### Deaths from Diseases of the Respiratory System:

There were 182 deaths attributed to diseases in this group (95 male and 87 female), making them the fourth commonest cause of death with a rate of 2.0 per 1,000 of the population. This compares with 2.1 the previous year. The following table analyses in more detail the figures over the past five years:—

Year	Influenza	Pneumonia	Bronchitis and Emphysema	Other diseases of Respiratory System (including asthma)	Total	Rate per 1,000 of population
1968	63	121	73	21	278	3.3
1969	4	107	69	22	202	2.4
1970	16	127	78	28	249	3.0
1971	5	110	55	18	188	2.1
1972	12	87	58	25	182	2.0

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The diseases requiring to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health are:—

Acute encephalitis	Ophthalmia neonatorum
Acute meningitis	Paratyphoid fever
Acute poliomyelitis	Plague
Anthrax	Relapsing fever
Cholera	Scarlet fever
Diphtheria	Smallpox
Dysentery (amoebic or bacillary)	Tetanus
Food poisoning	Tuberculosis
Infective Jaundice	Typhoid fever
Leprosy	Typhus fever
Leptospirosis	Whooping cough
Malaria	Yellow fever
Measles	

Diseases notified during the year totalled only 24, the lowest number ever recorded for Worthing.

In 1972 no cases occurred in Worthing of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or typhoid fever, and the only disease which reached double figures was measles, with 12 notifications. The tables which follow give further details.

# NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES—1972 (Corrected in Cases of Revised Diagnosis)

	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65 and over	Age un- known	Total
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	—	1	1	—	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Acute Meningitis ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	5
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Infective Jaundice ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals ..	—	3	1	—	2	11	—	2	1	2	2	—	—	—	24



# NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES—1958-1972

YEAR:—	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Scarlet Fever ..	17	45	50	7	3	5	9	6	29	42	3	5	6	5	3
Whooping Cough ..	24	76	89	27	—	19	22	15	8	8	30	7	15	17	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	418	1,087	12	392	12	930	35	759	386	360	27	18	276	289	12
Acute Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	3	2	3	1	5
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	2	—	—	1	—	7	—	9	1	2	2	—	4	1	—
Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	3	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	11	4	1	1
Tuberculosis ..	15	35	16	10	17	14	8	14	5	12	3	8	8	4	2
Infective Jaundice ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	6	2	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1

## **Tuberculosis:**

Formal notification of new cases numbered two compared with four in 1971. One was pulmonary and one non-pulmonary.

One death due to respiratory tuberculosis was assigned to Worthing residents by the Registrar General, three less than last year.

During the year the number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register decreased from 32 to 27. The position is summarised in the following table:—

	Males		Females		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
Number of cases on register on 1.1.72 ..	15	—	16	1	32
New cases ..	1	—	—	1	2
Number of cases re-stored to register ..	1	—	—	—	1
Number of cases added other than by formal notification	3	—	1	—	4
Number of cases removed from register	7	—	5	—	12
Number of cases on register on 31.12.72	13	—	12	2	27

Further information about tuberculosis discovered by means of mass radiography is given on page 42 and details about B.C.G. vaccination on page 43.

## **Glandular Fever :**

Glandular fever is an infectious disease but is not officially notifiable. However, Worthing Hospital laboratory advises the Health Department of their findings, and during 1972 30 cases (15 female and 15 male) were reported in Worthing residents.

There were 38 cases reported in 1971.

## **Venereal Disease:**

The number of cases reported in Worthing in 1972 increased by 53. i am indebted to Dr. D. R. Levinson, Consultant Venereologist, for the following statistics which relate to West Sussex patients seen at Worthing Hospital during the past five years.

Disease	Number of new cases in year				
	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Syphilis — primary & secondary	} 3	} 3	—	5	4
other —			5	1	—
Gonorrhoea ... ..	18	60	55	73	82
Other genital infections ... ..	} 185	} 227	147	156	169
Other conditions ... ..			80	134	167
Total — all conditions ...	206	290	287	369	422

The above figures include patients who live outside the Borough. Not included are others who are resident here but attended treatment centres elsewhere, e.g. in Brighton.



## METEOROLOGY

The Meteorological Station is now in the grounds of Davison Girls' School. It was moved there from Beach House Park on the 21st April, 1971, after 42 years. Here all the instruments, except the Fortin Standard Barometer and the Sunshine Recorder are kept. Observations are taken every day throughout the year at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

All instruments at the local Meteorological Observatory are examined and tested periodically by Officers of the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, Bracknell, Berkshire.

A code report is sent by telephone each evening to the Meteorological Office, London, and the leading newspapers are supplied with reports from that Office.

Weekly reports are sent to the local newspapers, and a full report monthly to the Meteorological Office, Bracknell, for publication in their journals. Rainfall statistics are supplied to the British Rainfall Organisation.

The daily weather report of the Air Ministry, the previous day's sunshine card and a collection of charts and records are also exhibited in the windows of the Information Bureau at the Pier.

A statistical summary of Worthing's climate over the past 60 years can be found in Table I on page 23. From these figures emerge the following records:

Lowest temperature .....	13°F. in 1929
Highest temperature .....	90°F. in 1947
Lowest rainfall .....	13.26 inches in 1921
Highest rainfall .....	41.43 inches in 1960
Least sunshine .....	1,600.2 hrs. in 1913
Most sunshine .....	2,128.9 hrs. in 1949

## WORTHING'S WEATHER, 1972

The year was dry but dull and cool.

Rainfall amounted to 24.34ins. of which only 16.52ins. of 68% fell between January and October and it looked like being the driest year since 1921, but the last two months recorded 7.82in which brought the year's total almost to the same as 1971. The summer and autumn were the driest since 1961.

Sunshine amounted to 1,687.5 hours, 134 hours below average making it the duller year since 1968. The spring and summer months were duller than average; May was the duller for 10 years and July the duller for 6 years. All the months from April to September inclusive, had below average sunshine.

Although summer and autumn were dry they were cool seasons. June was the coolest since records began in 1905 and August the coolest for 16 years. September was the coolest for 20 years and October for 8 years.

For the period April to September—183 days—temperatures reached the "70s" on only 21 days and 79 deg. in the brief warm spell of 14th-19th July. In the last 20 years temperatures have reached the "80s" on one year in two. In fact it was the coolest summer since 1922.

The first signs of approaching winter appeared on the 17th November when snow fell in the morning—the earliest snow for 20 years—but the

winter of 1972/73 which followed proved to be the mildest since 1956/57. Mean temperature was above average and rainfall and sunshine below average. The winter had only 35 rain-days, the lowest number for 10 years. Snow and sleet were recorded on only four days and snow was reported lying at the meteorological station on only one day—the lowest number for 12 years. The 27th February, 1973, recorded 10 hours of sunshine—the sunniest February day for over half a century and the February weekend of the 17th and 18th, 1973, with 18 hours of sunshine was the sunniest weekend since the previous August.

### **Summary of Observations :**

Total amount of bright sunshine: 1,691.7 hours.

Number of days with sunshine: 286.

Rainfall: 24.34 inches.

Number of rain days (0.1 inch or more): 149.

Number of wet days (.04 inch or more): 111.

Highest barometric reading: 30.724 inches on 19th December.

Lowest barometric reading: 29.057 inches on 20th November.

Warmest day: 17th and 18th July (79°).

Coldest night: 31st January (19°).

Coldest day: 30th January (30°).

Warmest night: 20th and 21st July (62°).

Warmest month (by day): August (average temperature 68.2°).

Coldest month (by night): January (average temperature 36.6°).

Mean temperature: 50.5°.

Mean relative humidity, at 9 a.m.: 81.0%.

Lowest temperature on the grass: 13° on 31st January.

Wettest day: 8th December (1.37 inches).

Sunniest day: 15th July (15.1 hours).

Number of days snow or sleet fell: 4.

Number of days hail fell: 2.

Number of days thunder heard: 6.

Number of ground frosts: 63.

Number of days with gales: 6.

Number of days snow lying: 1.

Number of days with fog (9 a.m.): 1.

### **Bright Sunshine**

The Campbell-Stokes Sunshine Recorder is fixed on a platform at the top of Christ Church tower, 111 feet above mean sea level and 84 feet above ground level.

The duration of bright sunshine for the year was 1,691.7 hours, the dullest year since 1968.

This amount is 37.6 per cent. of the time during which the sun was above the horizon, giving a daily mean of 4.62 hours. The average yearly sunshine for the previous 20 years was 1,794.3.

During this period the year with the highest record was 1959 when 2,123.9 hours were recorded, whilst the year 1958 was the lowest with



1,601.5 hours. The sunniest day was 15th July when 15.1 hours were recorded.

August with 216.7 hours was the sunniest month and January with 45.4 hours was the least sunny.

The Meteorological Office have discontinued issuing their sunshine summary (after 50 years publication) which usually contained a list of approximately 350 sunshine stations in the British Isles; in its place they are issuing an abbreviated list of the top 20 sunniest stations in the British Isles. In this list Worthing held 10th position for the mainland, as follows:—

<i>Station</i>	<i>Sunshine (Hours)</i>
Bognor Regis .. .. .	1765.4
Exmouth .. .. .	1753.4
Dale Fort (Pembs.) .. .. .	1748.1
Eastbourne .. .. .	1726.3
Torquay .. .. .	1722.8
Newquay .. .. .	1711.1
Weymouth .. .. .	1708.0
Penzance .. .. .	1702.8
Teignmouth .. .. .	1694.7
WORTHING .. .. .	1687.5
Plymouth .. .. .	1687.1
Littlehampton .. .. .	1685.0
St. Mawgan .. .. .	1671.8

## Rainfall

This is measured by an official 5 inch Copper Rain Gauge (Met. Office pattern).

The rainfall for the year 1972 was 24.34 inches. This amount is 3.15 inches below the Normal and 4.02 inches below the previous 20 years' average.

The month of October was the driest with 0.80 inch falling below the Normal amount by 1.34 inches. December was the wettest month with 4.19 inches this amount being 1.29 inches above the Normal. The heaviest daily rainfall was 1.37 inches on 8th December. There were 149 days on which 0.01 inch or more rain fell, compared with 155 days which is the average number for the previous 20 years.

One inch of rainfall is equivalent to 100.925 tons per acre or 14.4686 millions of gallons per square mile.

**SUMMER RAINFALL.** Total for six months (1st April to 30th September) was 9.37 inches compared with an average summer rainfall for the previous 10 years of 13.16 inches.

**WINTER RAINFALL.** Total for six months (January to March and October to December) was 14.97 inches compared with an average winter rainfall for the previous 10 years of 15.17 inches.

Table V and VI on pages 27 and 28 give further information.

## Barometric pressure

The mean barometric reading for the year was 30.001 inches (when reduced to sea level and to a temperature of 32°F), the average for the previous 10 years being 29.997 inches. The highest reading for the year was 30.724 inches on 19th December, and the lowest reading was 29.057 inches on 20th November. The absolute range for the year was 1.667 inches



and the average range for the previous 10 years 1.857 inches.

One inch barometric pressure is equivalent to 70.727 lbs per square foot.

Table VII on page 28 shows the monthly readings.

**Temperature and Humidity**

The shade thermometers, in a Stevenson screen, are:—self-recording maximum, self-recording minimum, dry bulb and wet bulb.

A self-recording minimum thermometer is used for registering the temperature on the grass.

A 1ft. earth thermometer is in use.

The mean temperature for the year was 50.5° Fahr. which is 0.5° below the Normal. The highest shade temperature for 1972 was 79° recorded on 17th and 18th July and the lowest 19° on 31st January. The extreme range of temperature was 60° compared with an average of 57° for the previous 10 years. The temperature on the grass fell below 32° on 63 nights. The lowest temperature on the grass was 19° during the night of 31st January.

**Humidity**

The mean relative humidity of the atmosphere (percentage of saturation of the air) at 9 a.m. was 81% compared with the previous 10 years' average of 81%.

Table VIII on page 29 gives the monthly mean maximum and minimum temperature readings and Table IX on page 30 further details on cloud and relative humidity.

**Wind**

Percentages of direction of wind from 732 observations taken at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. throughout the year:—

	9 a.m.	6 p.m.		9 a.m.	6 p.m.
	%	%		%	%
N.	7.9	6.0	S.	3.6	7.1
N.E.	19.9	17.0	S.W.	20.8	28.0
E.	6.6	4.3	W.	17.1	19.0
S.E.	10.4	9.3	N.W.	13.7	9.3
Calm	—	—			

Further details can be found in Table X on page 31.

**Visibility**

This is measured on an arbitrary scale which depends on ability to see a particular object from a fixed view point. For example, if maximum visibility from the office gate is the north west corner of the town hall (a distance of 110 yards), then “thick fog” is present, designated by the letter “C”. If on the other hand visibility from Christ Church Tower extends to Selsey Bill (18¼ miles), but not Beachy Head (27 miles) then it is said to be “very good” (L), but not “excellent” (M).

During 1972 fog was recorded on one occasion at 9 a.m. Excellent visibility was recorded on 62 occasions. The complete record is shown in Table XI on page 32 with a key to the table on page 32.

TABLE I—CLIMATE OF WORTHING—1913-1972

Year	Temperatures							Rainfall		Sunshine	Year
	Means					Extremes		Amount at Observ- atory	Number of days rain fell	Number of hours in year	
	9 a.m.	Min.	Max.	Range	Mean	Min.	Max.				
	Degrees							Inches			
1913 ..	52.1	45.9	57.4	11.5	51.6	26.2	79.0	34.98	170	1600.2	..1913
1914 ..	52.7	45.2	57.9	12.7	51.5	23.2	78.2	31.31	164	2000.5	..1914
1915 ..	51.1	43.8	56.3	12.5	50.5	24.7	77.1	36.64	152	1801.3	..1915
1916 ..	51.2	44.7	56.3	11.6	50.5	25.0	77.0	32.89	182	1658.0	..1916
1917 ..	49.2	43.0	54.6	11.6	48.8	20.7	79.0	25.49	147	1804.7	..1917
1918 ..	51.0	44.7	56.5	11.8	50.6	20.0	78.0	24.41	165	1856.5	..1918
1919 ..	49.4	42.9	54.9	12.0	48.9	22.0	78.5	28.54	158	1788.5	..1919
1920 ..	51.7	45.6	56.6	11.0	51.1	23.0	76.0	26.40	139	1692.1	..1920
1921 ..	53.4	46.4	58.8	12.4	52.6	27.6	86.7	13.26	108	2101.5	..1921
1922 ..	50.1	43.9	54.8	10.9	49.3	25.2	78.2	25.71	159	1781.2	..1922
1923 ..	50.8	44.5	55.6	11.1	50.1	24.0	86.0	30.62	170	1805.9	..1923
1924 ..	50.8	45.4	55.3	9.9	50.3	25.0	74.6	32.65	159	1759.6	..1924
1925 ..	49.8	44.7	55.9	11.2	50.3	24.0	80.2	34.70	158	1955.8	..1925
1926 ..	51.6	45.7	56.7	11.0	51.2	21.8	83.3	28.57	160	1677.7	..1926
1927 ..	50.8	45.0	55.8	10.8	50.4	22.4	78.1	34.88	165	1731.4	..1927
1928 ..	51.9	45.1	57.0	11.9	51.0	21.6	82.0	32.84	161	1999.1	..1928
1929 ..	50.9	44.1	56.0	11.9	50.0	13.0	80.0	29.71	134	2062.5	..1929
1930 ..	52.0	46.9	56.4	9.5	51.3	26.0	82.6	28.31	169	1821.4	..1930
1931 ..	51.0	45.0	55.0	10.0	50.0	21.0	77.0	25.80	147	1610.5	..1931
1932 ..	50.5	45.1	55.8	10.7	50.5	23.0	80.0	23.91	148	1616.7	..1932
1933 ..	52.0	45.5	56.4	10.9	51.2	23.6	81.2	20.40	125	2102.6	..1933
1934 ..	52.1	45.6	57.5	11.9	51.8	24.0	82.0	27.49	139	1811.0	..1934
1935 ..	51.8	46.1	56.6	10.5	51.3	25.6	83.8	37.74	173	1805.2	..1935
1936 ..	51.3	45.4	55.9	10.5	50.7	27.1	81.3	27.42	169	1675.0	..1936
1937 ..	51.5	46.3	57.2	10.9	51.8	26.0	76.8	31.59	162	1668.3	..1937
1938 ..	52.7	46.1	57.1	11.0	51.6	19.5	82.5	22.95	156	1796.4	..1938
1939 ..	51.8	45.8	56.5	10.7	51.2	20.0	81.5	34.42	171	1809.7	..1939
1940 ..	50.0	45.0	56.0	11.0	50.5	16.0	80.0	30.13	148	1976.8	..1940
1941 ..	50.3	44.0	56.0	12.0	50.0	22.0	83.0	25.83	139	1791.7	..1941
1942 ..	50.0	44.8	55.3	10.5	50.5	19.0	83.0	24.62	129	1711.6	..1942
1943 ..	52.0	46.0	58.0	12.0	52.0	28.0	80.0	23.68	145	1864.8	..1943
1944 ..	51.3	45.4	56.2	10.8	50.8	26.0	81.0	22.14	136	1765.5	..1944
1945 ..	52.5	46.5	57.2	10.7	51.2	19.0	80.0	22.98	138	1783.9	..1945
1946 ..	51.6	45.5	55.7	10.2	50.6	23.0	76.0	30.96	170	1790.7	..1946
1947 ..	51.3	45.7	56.1	10.4	50.9	15.0	90.0	24.31	139	1896.8	..1947
1948 ..	52.6	46.6	57.6	11.0	52.1	17.0	88.0	25.23	154	1916.9	..1948
1949 ..	53.3	47.2	58.4	11.2	52.8	29.0	81.0	23.90	120	2128.9	..1949
1950 ..	52.1	46.1	56.7	10.6	51.4	24.0	81.0	26.95	157	1805.4	..1950
1951 ..	51.9	46.0	56.3	10.3	51.2	22.0	76.0	37.98	184	1838.4	..1951
1952 ..	50.7	45.0	56.0	11.0	50.2	23.0	82.0	28.54	175	1917.0	..1952
1953 ..	51.9	46.2	57.1	10.9	51.7	25.0	80.0	24.33	125	1885.1	..1953
1954 ..	51.0	45.3	56.0	10.7	50.7	18.0	75.0	30.28	188	1687.3	..1954
1955 ..	51.0	44.8	56.4	11.6	50.6	25.0	84.0	24.75	140	1936.4	..1955
1956 ..	49.9	44.2	55.0	10.8	49.6	16.0	77.0	24.08	148	1726.7	..1956
1957 ..	52.2	46.8	57.1	10.3	51.9	30.0	82.0	25.30	162	1836.4	..1957
1958 ..	50.8	45.9	55.5	9.6	50.7	23.0	77.0	34.36	169	1601.5	..1958
1959 ..	53.1	47.1	58.7	11.6	52.9	26.0	82.0	23.47	128	2123.9	..1959
1960 ..	51.4	46.5	56.4	9.9	51.5	21.0	80.0	41.43	196	1617.9	..1960
1961 ..	52.6	46.7	57.5	10.8	52.1	25.0	79.0	27.29	152	1875.8	..1961
1962 ..	49.7	43.8	54.7	10.9	49.2	18.0	73.0	25.86	143	1794.4	..1962
1963 ..	49.0	44.1	53.5	9.4	48.8	18.0	80.0	26.93	165	1643.9	..1963
1964 ..	50.9	45.5	55.9	10.4	50.7	23.0	78.0	26.55	148	1743.0	..1964
1965 ..	50.0	44.5	55.1	10.6	49.8	22.0	73.0	30.74	159	1705.7	..1965
1966 ..	51.8	46.0	56.4	10.4	51.2	22.0	81.0	31.23	178	1652.6	..1966
1967 ..	51.0	46.0	56.5	10.5	51.2	17.0	79.0	29.16	150	1900.4	..1967
1968 ..	50.8	45.6	55.3	9.7	50.5	24.0	82.0	30.98	135	1643.5	..1968
1969 ..	51.1	45.4	56.5	11.1	50.9	22.0	80.0	26.51	137	1803.8	..1969
1970 ..	51.2	45.7	56.4	10.7	51.0	23.0	78.0	31.28	167	1865.0	..1970
1971 ..	51.5	45.1	56.8	11.7	51.0	24.0	82.0	24.20	120	1889.9	..1971
1972 ..	51.0	45.2	56.0	10.8	50.6	27.0	79.0	24.34	149	1691.7	..1972



TABLE 11—BRIGHT SUNSHINE

Month	Total Hours Bright Sunshine	Average for 30 years 1931-1960	Hours Daily Mean	Percentage of average %	Days with Sunshine	Most in one day Hours	Monthly Total			
							Highest		Lowest	
							Hours	Year	Hours	Year
January ..	45.4	71	1.46	64	15	7.8	109.9	1940	34.5	1912
February ..	48.3	83	1.66	57	16	8.5	140.3	1949	29.8	1947
March ..	173.1	141	5.85	123	28	11.2	220.8	1907	77.9	1964
April ..	164.9	187	5.50	88	28	12.4	267.2	1912	105.3	1905
May ..	159.4	230	6.43	87	28	11.3	353.1	1909	148.9	1932
June ..	209.3	243	6.97	86	26	15.0	327.1	1957	143.5	1909
July ..	196.8	224	6.35	88	27	15.1	369.0	1911	133.8	1944
August ..	216.7	218	6.99	99	31	13.6	298.4	1899	112.6	1912
September ..	152.7	166	5.09	93	26	11.8	262.6	1898	97.1	1945
October ..	131.3	124	4.23	106	23	9.9	182.9	1965	81.9	1915
November ..	88.3	73	2.67	121	18	7.9	131.3	1909	39.6	1962
December ..	6.55	61	2.11	107	20	7.0	113.8	1962	22.3	1956
Year 1972 ..	1691.7	1821	4.62	93	286	15.1	369.0	July 1911	22.3	Dec. 1956
Highest and Lowest Year Totals							2141.0	1899	1600.2	1913



TABLE III—BRIGHT SUNSHINE

Year	Campbell-Stokes Recorder Bright Sunshine Hours	Bright Sunshine Days	Sunniest Days	
			Day	Hours
1952	1917.0	317	June 30th	15.1
1953	1885.1	302	July 24th	14.3
1954	1687.3	301	June 20th	14.4
1955	1936.4	305	May 30, June 1	14.9
1956	1726.7	311	July 25th	14.9
1957	1836.4	307	June 13th	15.5
1958	1601.5	306	May 28, June 14	14.9
1959	2123.9	320	June 17th	15.3
1960	1617.9	298	June 20th	15.1
1961	1875.8	311	June 29th	15.0
1962	1794.4	306	June 7th	15.3
1963	1643.9	286	June 6th	15.2
1964	1743.0	284	July 13th	15.0
1965	1705.7	310	June 28th	14.7
1966	1652.6	296	May 30th	14.9
1967	1900.4	315	July 11th	15.1
1968	1643.5	286	June 12th	15.4
1969	1803.8	302	July 13th	14.8
1970	1865.0	307	June 21st	15.3
1971	1889.9	303	July 13th	14.8
1972	1691.7	286	July 15th	15.1
Average for 20 years 1952—1971	1794.3	304		

TABLE IV—RAINFALL

1972			Total Rain-fall	Difference from the Normal	Greatest Fall in 24 hours beginning 10 a.m.	Number of Days with .01 in. or more    .04 in. or more		Total Rain Days
January	..		ins. 2.95	ins. +0.01	ins. 0.45	18	15	18
February	..		1.76	—0.24	0.41	15	10	15
March	..		1.64	—0.08	0.57	12	8	12
April	..	..	2.19	+0.41	0.41	13	12	13
May	..	..	2.16	+0.51	0.41	18	13	18
June	..	..	1.52	—0.03	0.33	15	9	15
July	..	..	1.12	—1.02	0.24	8	3	8
August	..		1.56	—0.72	1.31	5	4	5
September	..		0.82	—1.34	0.44	4	4	4
October	..		0.80	—2.15	0.52	6	5	6
November	..		3.63	+0.19	0.87	18	15	18
December	..		4.19	+1.29	1.37	17	13	17
Year	..	..	24.34	—3.15	1.37	149	111	149

TABLE V—RAINFALL

Year	Rainfall in inches	No. of Days Rain fell (0.01 inch or more)	Greatest Fall in a Day	
			Amount in inches	Day and Month
1952	28.54	175	1.29	30th September
1953	24.33	125	1.22	12th October
1954	30.28	188	1.81	25th July
1955	24.75	140	1.40	22nd September
1956	24.08	148	0.97	4th September
1957	25.30	162	1.27	3rd November
1958	34.36	169	1.62	28th January
1959	23.47	128	0.83	6th December
1960	41.43	196	1.74	10th August
1961	27.29	152	1.77	29th January
1962	25.86	143	1.12	20th July
1963	26.95	165	1.04	15th November
1964	26.55	148	1.67	31st May
1965	30.74	159	1.44	2nd August
1966	31.23	178	1.38	6th August
1967	29.16	150	1.32	3rd November
1968	30.98	149	2.35	9th July
1969	26.51	137	1.69	6th July
1970	31.28	167	1.33	21st August
1971	24.20	120	1.37	18th June
Average for 20 years 1952-1971	28.36	155	2.35	9th July
1972	24.34	149	1.37	8th December



TABLE VI—BAROMETRIC PRESSURE

1972	Barometric pressure (Reduced to sea level and 32° Fahr.)		
	Mean (inches)	Extremes	
		Highest	Lowest
January .. ..	29·897	30·348	29·399
February .. ..	29·769	30·203	29·121
March .. ..	29·909	30·390	29·104
April . ..	29·910	30·331	29·064
May .. ..	29·903	30·131	29·545
June .. ..	29·970	30·172	29·753
July .. ..	30·105	30·410	29·713
August .. ..	30·116	30·372	29·575
September .. ..	30·194	30·480	29·606
October .. ..	30·122	30·524	29·616
November .. ..	30·036	30·617	29·057
December .. ..	30·082	30·724	29·558
Year 1972 .. ..	30·001	30·724	29·057

TABLE VII—TEMPERATURE

1972	Air temperature in screen (F)					
	Means of		Mean of A & B	Difference from normal	Extremes	
	A Max.	B Min.			Max.	Min.
	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)	(°)
January	44·9	36·6	40·7	—0·2	50	19
February	46·3	38·1	42·2	+1·3	51	27
March	51·6	39·7	45·7	+2·0	65	28
April	54·1	42·9	48·5	+0·5	61	35
May	57·7	48·2	52·9	—0·6	70	37
June	58·9	49·3	54·1	—4·0	67	42
July	67·5	54·9	61·2	—1·3	79	47
August	68·2	53·7	60·9	—1·7	75	47
September	62·6	48·9	55·7	—3·7	73	39
October	59·1	47·8	53·5	+0·4	64	37
November	50·4	40·4	45·4	—0·8	58	29
December	49·6	41·4	45·5	+3·7	55	32
Year 1972	55·9	45·1	50·5	—0·5	79	19

TABLE VIII—CLOUD AND HUMIDITY

Month.	Cloud Amount Scale 1-8		Mean Relative Humidity	Mean Humidity previous 10 years 1962-1971
	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	9 a.m.
January .. ..	6	7	$\frac{\%}{89}$	$\frac{\%}{89}$
February .. ..	7	7	87	84
March .. ..	4	4	76	82
April .. ..	6	5	77	80
May .. ..	6	6	77	78
June .. ..	5	5	76	76
July .. ..	6	5	81	76
August .. ..	4	5	76	79
September .. ..	5	5	77	81
October .. ..	5	5	80	85
November .. ..	5	5	85	85
December .. ..	6	6	91	87
Year 1972 ..	5	5	81	Yearly average 82

TABLE IX—WINDS

Month.	9 a.m. OBSERVATIONS.—DIRECTION.								
	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm
January .. ..	2	6	2	8	2	6	—	5	—
February .. ..	3	5	4	6	2	6	2	1	—
March .. ..	—	6	5	6	2	4	5	3	—
April .. ..	7	4	—	1	—	10	2	6	—
May .. ..	2	6	1	3	—	9	9	1	—
June .. ..	1	2	—	2	2	13	8	2	—
July .. ..	—	8	—	1	1	6	10	5	—
August .. ..	2	7	1	1	1	6	7	6	—
September .. ..	5	9	1	2	—	1	4	8	—
October .. ..	2	11	4	3	—	6	2	3	—
November .. ..	1	2	—	—	1	7	11	8	—
December .. ..	1	4	2	5	2	12	3	2	—
Year 1972 .. ..	26	70	20	38	13	86	63	50	—

Month.	6 p.m. OBSERVATIONS —DIRECTION.								
	N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Calm
January .. ..	3	4	2	6	4	5	—	7	—
February .. ..	1	6	3	3	5	7	1	3	—
March .. ..	—	3	3	6	2	8	7	2	—
April .. ..	5	5	2	—	1	9	6	2	—
May .. ..	1	6	—	4	5	5	9	1	—
June .. ..	—	2	—	2	1	15	10	—	—
July .. ..	1	5	—	1	—	13	8	3	—
August .. ..	4	5	1	—	2	10	8	1	—
September .. ..	3	10	1	4	1	5	1	5	—
October .. ..	2	11	3	1	—	8	4	2	—
November .. ..	1	1	—	—	2	7	12	7	—
December .. ..	1	4	2	7	3	10	3	1	—
Year 1972 .. ..	22	62	17	34	26	102	69	34	—



TABLE X—VISIBILITY

Summary of observations taken at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.

MONTH	FOG						MIST OR HAZE						GOOD VISIBILITY									
	A		B & C		D & E		F		G		H		I		J		K		L		M	
	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.	9 a.m.	6 p.m.
January ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	8	5	2	9	10	5	6	5	3	—	—	1	2
February ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	6	3	3	7	4	5	7	7	6	3	1	—	—	2
March ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	5	7	7	10	5	7	8	1	1	1	4
April ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	4	4	2	9	11	8	8	1	1	2	3
May ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	2	2	2	2	13	8	7	8	4	3	2	5
June ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	3	2	6	7	9	5	5	5	3	7
July ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	6	5	6	6	8	5	4	7	3	2	1	5
August ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	5	7	6	6	6	5	2	4	4	2	7
September ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	6	3	11	12	3	5	4	4	3	5
October ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	11	9	10	8	5	8	2	1	—	2
November ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	7	6	6	3	4	7	6	5	3	3	2	3
December ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	9	7	8	8	9	10	4	5	—	—	—	—
Year 1972 ..	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	21	22	57	48	73	63	98	92	69	67	28	24	17	45

KEY TO TABLE XI—VISIBILITY

Letter	Standard Distance	Actual Distance	Description of visibility	Object	View Point	Bearings
A	22 yards	21 yards	Dense Fog	Chestnut tree on opposite side of road	Office Door	S.E.
B	44 yards	45 yards	Thick Fog	Chestnut tree outside entrance to "Ryecroft"	Office Gate	E.
C	110 yards	110 yards	Thick Fog	N.W. corner of Town Hall	Office Gate	E.
D	220 yards	220 yards	Fog	Christ Church Tower	Office Window	S.
E	440 yards	430 yards	Moderate Fog	Holy Trinity Church Spire	Christ Church Tower	S.W.
F	1100 yards	1100 yards	Very Poor	Heene Church Tower	" "	W.
G	1¼ miles	1¼ miles	Poor	Tarring Church Tower	" "	N.W.
H	2½ miles	2¾ miles	Moderate	Top of High Salvington Hill	" "	N.W.
I	4½ miles	4¼ miles	Moderate	Highdown Hill	" "	W.N.W.
J	6¼ miles	6⅝ miles	Good	Portslade Gas Works Chimney	" "	E.
K	12½ miles	12½ miles	Very Good	Hills beyond Brighton	" "	E.
L	18⅔ miles	18¼ miles	Very Good	Selsey Bill	" "	W.S.W.
M	25 miles	27 miles	Excellent	Beachy Head	" "	E.S.E.

# **Part II.**

## **PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES**



## DELEGATED HEALTH SERVICES

In accordance with section 10 (2) of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 the Borough Council varied the scheme under which health and welfare functions were delegated to them by the County Council, so as to exclude social services functions from the matters delegated. The following list summarises the health functions which remain delegated :—

- (a) National Health Service Act, 1946 (as modified by the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968)—

Section 21—Health Centres.

22—Care of Mothers and Young Children.

23—Midwifery.

24—Health Visiting.

25—Home Nursing.

26—Vaccination and Immunisation.

28—Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

- (b) National Health Service (Family Planning) Act 1967.

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

### Notification of Births:

Under section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, all births have to be notified within 36 hours to the Medical Officer of Health of the Health Authority in whose area the birth takes place. If a delegation scheme is in operation, Section I (1) of the Public Health (Notification of Births) Act, 1965, requires that notifications of births should be sent to the Medical Officer of the delegatee authority instead of the County Medical Officer. Births are usually notified by the attending midwife. Notification is in addition to registration, normally the duty of the father, and for which 42 days are allowed. A Health Authority is thus able to keep up-to-date records of all new births and provide a home visiting service to the mothers.

In 1972 there were 852 notified live births to mothers whose homes were in Worthing, though only 74 of these were actually delivered in the town. The figure of 852 is 27 more than the registered live births, but in any one year it is unusual for these figures to be the same because of the difference in time allowed for recording.

### Child Health Clinics (including clinics for toddlers and immunisation)

There are six Child Health Centres in the Borough situated as follows: —

- (1) The Central Clinic, Stoke Abbott Road—Monday afternoons.
- (2) Church Hall, New Road, Durrington—Second and fourth Thursday afternoons in each month.
- (3) St. Mary's Hall, Ilex Way, Goring—Second and fourth Thursday afternoons in each month.
- (4) St. Richard's Hall, Collingwood Road, Maybridge—First Thursday afternoon in each month.
- (5) All Saints' Hall, Cissbury Avenue, Findon Valley—Second Wednesday afternoon in each month.
- (6) St. Stephen's Hall, Angola Road, East Worthing—First and third Friday afternoons in each month.

1,131 infants and children made a total of 4,917 attendances at all centres during the year. The number of infants who first attended whilst they were under 1 year of age was 399, equivalent to 46.0 per cent of the notified live births.

The table below gives further details of attendances at the 6 child health clinics during the year which include toddlers and immunisation clinics: —

Clinic	No. of clinics held	No. of children who attended centres	Total No. of attendances made	Average attendance per clinic
Central .. ..	90 (48)	338 (403)	1,691 (2,201)	18.8 (45.8)
Durrington ..	30 (47)	315 (351)	1,412 (1,992)	47.0 (42.3)
Goring .. ..	24 (24)	153 (164)	639 (603)	26.6 (25.1)
Maybridge ..	12 (12)	84 (80)	238 (228)	20.0 (19.0)
Findon Valley ..	12 (12)	71 (77)	269 (285)	22.4 (23.8)
East Worthing ..	24 (24)	170 (188)	688 (833)	27.8 (34.7)
Totals .. ..	192 (167)	1,131 (1,263)	49,17 (6,142)	25.6 (37.0)

(the figures in brackets refer to 1971)

In addition 320 clinics were held in doctors' surgeries attended by 3,780 children of whom 1,210 were seen by a doctor. 211 toddlers were also seen at these clinics compared with 396 in 1971.

### Congenital Abnormalities:

For the past eight years congenital abnormalities apparent at birth have been recorded on the birth notification forms. 26 babies (17 male and 9 female) were so notified in 1972, and between them were noted 26 malformations: —

Deformity right foot	..	..	1
Myelomeningocele	..	..	1
Talipes	..	..	5
Oesophageal Atresia	..	..	2
Meningocele	..	..	1
Digital Malformation hands	..	..	2
Exomphalos	..	..	1
Hare Lip	..	..	3
Down's syndrome (mongolism)	..	..	2
Spina bifida	..	..	2
Epispadias	..	..	1
Turner's Syndrome	..	..	1
Hypospadias	..	..	1
Skin defect	..	..	1
Naevus flammens	..	..	1
Abnormality right arm and hand	..	..	1
			—
			26
			—



**Care of Premature Babies:**

All babies weighing less than 5½lbs. at birth are by definition premature, though not all needed special care. Thirty-six premature live births were notified during the year. All were born in hospital and 1 died within 24 hours of birth. There were in addition 3 premature stillbirths.

The association of prematurity with stillbirths, neonatal mortality and mental or physical handicap is well known. Close supervision is therefore kept by the health visitors and clinic medical staff, particularly during the first 6 months of life.

**Phenylketonuria:**

Two cases have now been diagnosed through routine testing by the health visitors. No new cases were discovered during 1972.

**Ante-natal Clinics:**

Clinic sessions for expectant mothers were discontinued during 1970. Midwives are now “attached” to groups of general practitioners and assist them with special ante-natal sessions for their own patients in their own surgeries. 561 of these small “clinics” were held during the year and the total attendances numbered 3,252. The figures for 1971 were 661 and 4,986 respectively.

In association with the ante-natal clinics the physiotherapist held sessions for relaxation and postural exercises until she resigned at the end of the year following 23 years’ service. The numbers attending were as follows: —

New Patients	..	..	..	56	(74)
Total number of attendances	..	..	..	192	(190)

(The figures in brackets relate to 1971)

These sessions formed an integral part of the mothercraft programme intended primarily for mothers expecting their first babies (see page 44).

**Dental Clinics :**

All the facilities of the school dental service (see page 81) are available for expectant and nursing mothers, and for pre-school children.

The Area Dental Officer writes:

“Once again some small satisfaction can be derived from the slight increase in the number of pre-school children attending for dental examination. However only about 15% of under fives are to our knowledge being screened for dental disease. In order to try and awaken interest in early dental habits, our dental auxiliary visited as many nursery schools and playgroups as she could in order to talk to staff and parents to bring an awareness that this largely self-inflicted disease is preventable. Sensible dental habits implemented early in life can avoid unnecessary trouble later.”

The statistics for the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children are as follows: —

(a) Pre-school children examined	..	..	248	(217)
(b) No treatment required	..	..	169	(146)
(c) Expectant and nursing mothers	..	..	11	(8)



(d) Attendances for treatment: —

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Pre-school Children
Extractions .. .. .	2 (7)	8 (8)
Fillings .. .. .	41 (44)	326 (351)
Radiographs .. .. .	13 (10)	3 —
Local Anaesthetics .. .. .	12 (15)	1 —
Teeth made self-cleansing ... ..	— (—)	— (—)
Dressings .. .. .	6 (3)	8 (18)
Dentures .. .. .	— (—)	— (—)
Topical Flouride ... .. .	—	6

(The figures in brackets relate to 1970)

### Other Clinic Facilities :

The special clinics for school children are also available for children not yet old enough for school. They are discussed more fully in the School Health Service section of this report. The figures which follow relate only to pre-school children: —

(a) *Physiotherapy Clinic :*

New patients treated .. ..	22	(39)
Old patients treated .. ..	15	(16)
Total number treated (new and old) ..	37	(45)
Total number of attendances ..	219	(122)

(b) *Eye Clinic :*

Total number seen (new and old) ..	91	(98)
Total number of attendances ..	136	(151)

(c) *Orthoptic Clinic :*

Total number seen (new and old) ..	57	(43)
Total number of attendances .. ..	186	(260)

\*(d) *Speech Therapy Clinic :*

Total number seen (new and old) ..	—	(17)
Total number of attendances ..	—	(58)

(e) *Child Guidance Clinic :*

Number of patients seen .. .. .	—	(6)
---------------------------------	---	-----

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

\*The Speech Therapist resigned in July 1971 and had not been replaced by the end of the year.

The Child Guidance Clinic is in Southey Road. All the others are held in the main Central Clinic premises in Stoke Abbott Road.

## MIDWIFERY

The number and percentage of home confinements again shows a slight decrease as the following table shows: —

Year	Notified live and stillbirths		
	Total No. of confinements	No. born at home	% born at home
1966	923	129	13·8
1967	943	57	5·8
1968	904	20	2·2
1969	877	8	0·9
1970	938	11	1·2
1971	885	4	0·5
1972	859	3	0·3

The confinements took place as follows: —

Southlands Hospital	.. ..	323 (including 2 stillbirths)
Worthing Hospital	.. ..	74
Zachary Merton Maternity Hospital		
Other hospitals	.. ..	12
Patient's own home or private address	.. ..	3
Private Nursing Homes	..	1
Total		859 (including 7 stillbirths)

Although only 3 babies were born at home in 1972, the Local Authority domiciliary midwives were also responsible for "short-stay" confinements in Worthing Hospital Maternity Unit. These mothers were in general having normal second or third babies and were discharged home after 48 hours. Excluding ante-natal clinics (page 36) and mothercraft classes (page 44) the work of the domiciliary midwife is summarised in the following statistics: —

Domiciliary confinements	.. ..	3	(4)
Short-stay confinements in Worthing Hospital			
Maternity Units delivered by L.A. Midwives		32	(114)
Ante-natal home visits	.. ..	1,285	(2,453)
Post-natal nursing visits	.. ..	1,417	(2,387)

(The figures in brackets relate to 1971)

I am indebted to Miss E. J. Clunes, Principal Nursing Officer (Midwifery Division), Worthing, Southlands and District Hospital Management Committee, for permission to print the following article which appeared in their Hospital Journal "News Link": —



## **"LOOKING TO 1974"**

"In view of the changes in organisation of the Maternity Services envisaged for 1974 it was decided after discussion between West Sussex County Council, Worthing Borough Council and Worthing, Southlands and District H.M.C. that the vacancies for Domiciliary Midwives in the Worthing area should not be filled but that the staff of Southlands Hospital Maternity Department should continue the care at home of all maternity patients discharged from hospital, early in the post-natal period.

The re-organisation was made easier as there had been no Home Confinements in Worthing for some time. However, it was accepted that should the need arise, the hospital would be prepared to provide a midwife for domiciliary delivery.

The scheme commenced on 4th September, 1972. The one midwife still employed by Worthing Borough Council took over responsibility for all ante-natal clinics and for the visiting at home of patients being considered for "early discharge." She was invited to come to Southlands Hospital whenever her duties allowed it.

In the first three months of the scheme 653 post-natal visits were made to 119 patients. The number of visits per day varied from one to as many as twelve.

The Health Visitors have remarked that the continuity of care has made the patients more confident at the time when they take over. The patients are happy with the arrangement and the hospital staff think it is wonderful. To date we have received no emergency calls for advice or visits.

It will be of interest that this service has been given without an increase in hospital staff. This was possible, following the introduction of pre-packed infant feeds earlier in the year. These had resulted in a considerable saving of nurse time. Also tradition was broken and afternoon visits have been made during the overlap period of the morning and evening shifts.

I would like to congratulate the midwives who have so successfully launched this service. I trust this is a good omen for the changes that 1974 will bring."



## HEALTH VISITING

	NUMBER OF CASES VISITED				INEFFECTUAL VISITS
	FIRST VISITS	OTHER VISITS	REQUEST OF		
			HOSPITAL	G.P.	
Children born in current year	963	3,906	7	88	1,304
Other children aged under 5	859	7,679	28	182	2,245
Persons aged between 5 and 16 seen as part of health visiting (i.e. excluding those seen as part of school health service)	172	360	1	59	108
Persons aged between 17 and 24	578	1,005	49	203	197
Persons aged 65 and over	2,138	5,031	361	1,720	781
Households visited on account of Tuberculosis	8	9	1	—	8
Households visited on account of other infectious diseases	4	15	—	4	3
Households visited for any other reason	291	49	—	8	66
TOTAL	5,013	18,054	447	2,264	4,712
Number of persons Mentally included above Handicapped	5	36	—	1	—
who are:— Mentally ill	25	174	—	9	4

Total visits made by health visitors during the year numbered 23,067 compared with 22,046 in 1971.

## HOME NURSING

No. of new* patients given nursing care	Under 5 years	5-64 years	65 years and over	Total
In own homes	23	696	4,439	5,158
In GP's surgeries	6	101	303	410
In residential homes	—	3	21	24
Elsewhere	—	—	51	51
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>4,814</b>	<b>5,643</b>

**Note :** A patient is recorded as “new” when given first treatment of the year.

Total number of visits made :—District Nurses 83,631 (96,744)

Nursing Auxiliaries 23,178 (24,614)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The County Council's computerised scheme is now used for recording vaccinations and immunisations in the Borough and the following statistical tables have been supplied by the County Health Department: —

### Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis :

Type of Injection	Numbers completing primary course			Numbers having reinforcing doses		
	At L.A. Clinics or Schools	At G.P.'s Surgeries	Total	At L.A. Clinics or Schools	At G.P.'s Surgeries	Total
Triple Antigen	95 (92)	748 (649)	843 (741)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Diphtheria	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Diphtheria/whooping cough	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Diphtheria/Tetanus	9 (3)	24 (15)	33 (18)	174 (197)	672 (758)	846 (955)
Tetanus	— (—)	— —	— —	136 (20)	160 (126)	296 (146)
Polio-myelitis	111 (95)	773 (669)	884 (764)	351 (245)	866 (943)	1217 (1,188)
Totals	215 (190)	1,545 (1,333)	1,760 (1,523)	661 (462)	1,698 (1,827)	2,359 (2,289)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

### Measles:

Age Group	At L.A. Clinics or Schools	At G.P.s' Surgeries	Totals
Children born in 1972 ...	— (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)
Children born in 1971 ...	40 (51)	359 (331)	399 (382)
Children born in 1970 ...	40 (26)	293 (218)	333 (242)
Children born in 1969 ...	3 (10)	18 (48)	21 (58)
Children born in 1965/68 - -	8 (46)	37 (175)	45 (221)
Others under 16 ... ..	1 (41)	1 (106)	2 (147)
Totals ... ..	92 (174)	709 (878)	801 (1052)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

### Rubella :

The following vaccinations of girls between their 11th and 14th birthdays were completed during the year: —

(a) By Local Authority medical staff .. ..	428 (1,058)
(b) By general practitioners .. ..	103 (105)
TOTAL	531 (1,213)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)



The question of vaccinating women of child-bearing age against rubella has now been reviewed by the Secretary of State for Social Services who has accepted the advice of the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation. If a woman is seronegative (i.e. her blood shows no evidence of her ever having had rubella) she may be offered vaccination if

- (a) she requests it and is of child-bearing age; or
- (b) after the birth of a baby; or
- (c) if she is at special risk, e.g. a school teacher, nurse in children's hospital, etc.

It is not intended that there should be a national campaign to encourage vaccination in the above groups, nor that it should become a routine procedure for women of child-bearing age. It is important that all who do receive it are made fully aware of the need to avoid pregnancy for eight weeks after vaccination.

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

### Tuberculosis and Lung Cancer :

#### (a) *Mass Radiography :*

The number of persons X-rayed in Worthing by the Chest Radiography Unit in 1972 was as follows: —

General Practitioner referrals	..	..	..	2,031	(2,098)
Members of the General Public, M.O.H. referrals, etc.				1,242	(1,291)
				<hr/>	<hr/>
			TOTAL ..	3,273	(3,389)
				<hr/>	<hr/>

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

Positive findings as a result of the visits are tabled below: —

Disease	Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1,000 X-rayed
Tuberculosis :				
General Practitioner referrals	1 (2)	1 (1)	2 (3)	0.98 (1.43)
M.O.H. and General Public referrals ... ..	— (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)	0.80 (—)
Lung Cancer :				
General Practitioner referrals	18 (6)	3 (1)	21 (7)	10.3 (3.33)
M.O.H. and General Public referrals ... ..	2 (—)	— (—)	2 (—)	1.6 (—)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)



(b) *B.C.G. Vaccination :*

This scheme includes all the 13-year-old children attending both local authority and independent schools in the Borough. Each child whose parent has consented to the scheme is given a Heaf test, followed by a B.C.G. vaccination if they are negative, or an X-ray at the Mass Radiography Unit if they are positive.

Here are the details of the work done in 1972, with those of 1971 in brackets for comparison: —

Number of children given Heaf test ..	..	899	(786)
Number found to be tuberculin negative ..	..	882	(701)
Number found to be tuberculin positive ..	..	38	(47)
Number vaccinated .. .. .	..	872	(688)

All those found positive were X-rayed but no lung abnormalities were found.

## **Screening Clinics**

Since July, 1970, a weekly screening clinic has been conducted by Dr. Ann Giddins in the Central Clinic for the early detection of cervical and breast cancer. Invitations are sent out by the County Council's computer to all women on the electoral roll, and all over 35 years of age are asked to attend. Younger women who particularly wish to be examined are referred to the Worthing and District Cervical Cytology Service which continues to hold regular sessions at Worthing Hospital.

## **Health Education :**

(a) *Health Education in Schools:—*

*Davison C.E. Secondary School for Girls.*

A Mothercraft Course has been given in weekly sessions by Mrs. Hyde-Price, H.V. Films have been shown on several occasions to assist with this course.

*Worthing County Secondary School for Girls.*

A Mothercraft Course was given by Miss Jones, H.V., during the spring term and it is expected that another course will start in January 1973. At the request of Miss Hammond, Head of the science department, three talks with films and slides were given in January. These were: (a) Alcoholism (b) Drug Mis-use (c) Smoking.

*Worthing College of Further Education.*

Health Education sessions during the year totalled 40 and subjects were: Smoking; Drug mis-use; Child Development; Ante-natal care; Nutrition and Food Poisoning; Sexually Transmitted Diseases; Home Safety; First Aid and Resuscitation.

### *The High School for Girls.*

Visits have been made to talk to pupils on drug mis-use, with the use of slides and the film "One Way Ticket." One film, one set of slides, and one tape-recorded talk were used for teachers to discuss and consider for future use.

### *The High School for Boys.*

Ten talks have been given and a film shown on health hazards of smoking. 420 pupils attended.

### *The Technical High School.*

Interest has been shown in health subjects and nine talks with slides and/or films were given to different age groups.

### *Dental Health*

The distribution of dental kits to all new children in Infant Schools has continued.

"The Trigger Films" distributed by Liberation Films, are three very short films to trigger discussion among the pupils about teeth and their care. The films have been shown in Heene and Goring schools to pupils between 9 and 11 years and it was considered that they achieved their purpose.

### *(b) Health Education for Adults:—*

The number of talks given is less than in the previous year but all requests have been met. Two complete courses have been given—one to Red Cross members at Field Place, Goring, on Home Accident Prevention, (3 sessions), and the other to members of the National Housewives Register, in the Sports Centre. This consisted of 8 sessions on First Aid and Home Accident Prevention. Both were well attended.

### *Preparation for Retirement Course.*

This was held from 14th January to 7th April. Attendance was 30. As for the 1970 course, it was organised by the Worthing and District Council of Social Service and the Borough Health Department. Health topics were "Health in Later Years" and "Nutrition after Retirement."

### *Mothercraft Classes for Expectant Mothers.*

From April 1972 these have been held in the Central Clinic as the Worthing Hospital Maternity Unit had closed. Average attendance is 4.

### *Smoking and Health Campaign—Worthing Town Hall.*

At the request of a member of the staff and with the co-operation of the Town Clerk and Heads of department, the Gordon Room was hired for the afternoon of 9th November. A talk was given with slides, followed by a film, and after a short break was repeated, in order not to leave departments short of staff. A display of poster boards could be viewed and large supplies of booklets and leaflets were available.

Although the audience was attentive and interested, only 27 members of the staff attended.



Chiroprody :

The following table summarises the work done during the past five years: —

Year	No. of treatment sessions	No. of new patients	No. of patients on files	Total No. of treatments (old and new patients)	No. of free treatments	% of free treatments
1968	905	275	1330	7055	2290	32
1969	1264	562	1719	8964	2835	33
1970	1350	474	2004	9905	3210	32
1971	2047	1184	2927	13,505	4200	31
1972	2098	623	3004	14,128	4186	30

Figures for domiciliary visits are included in the above table.

The table below gives additional details of the work done during 1972: —

	Children	Adults	Total	
Treatments given to Old Clinic Patients ... ..	210	12,881	13,091	} Total Treatments to ALL categories 4,128
Treatments given to Old Domiciliary Patients ... ..	—	412	412	
Treatments given to New Clinic Patients ... ..	23	508	531	
Treatments given to New Domiciliary Patients ... ..	—	92	92	
Treatments given to Verrucae ...	2	—	2	
Number of Free Treatments at Clinic ... ..	235	3742	3977	} Total FREE Treatments given 4186
Number of Free Treatment: on Domiciliary visits ... ..	—	209	209	
Number of Fee Paid Treatments at Clinic ... ..	—	9647	9647	} Total Treatments FEE PAID 9942
Number of Fee Paid Treatments on Domiciliary visits ... ..	—	227	227	
Number of Appointments not kept...	82	1801	1883	
Number of Patients fitted with Appliances ... ..	80	280	360	
Number of Individual Appliances made ... ..	162	435	597	
Number of Patients on Files ...	83	2921	3004*	
O.A.P. — 2897				
Handicapped — 24				
Number of Clinic Sessions ... ..	2006			} 2098
Number of Domiciliary Sessions ... ..	92			

\*The figure of 3004 includes 24 Handicapped persons under the age of 65, and 83 children. The rest are old age pensioners.

Approximately one appointment in ten is not kept.



I am obliged to Mr. E. Jones, Chief Chiropodist, for the following report: —

“In 1972 we were able to maintain the progress made in the previous year, despite the six months’ setback between losing the services of one of our chiropodists and the appointment of a replacement officer.

Although a waiting list of patients requiring treatment still existed at the end of the year, strenuous efforts are being made to clear the backlog caused by the temporary staff shortage, and in general the elderly population of the Borough are receiving a good service.

The Domiciliary Service, begun in 1971, still takes up only 4% of available treatment time and has proved invaluable for the relief of foot conditions in those patients unable to travel to the Central Clinic, though strict control has to be exercised by the visiting chiropodist in order to prevent abuse of this limited service.

Corrective appliances continue to be a major factor in the effective relief of foot conditions in the elderly, and in the improvement of foot stance and walking in school children referred to us by the School Medical Officer or General Medical Practitioner. No separate charge is made for these appliances, the cost of which is offset by subsequent savings in treatment time and reduction in orthodox paddings.

Up to the end of August the charge made per treatment was 25p and from September 1st the charge was increased to 30p producing an income for the year of some £2,643. Patients in receipt of a supplementary allowance, and all children, continued to be treated free of charge.”

## **FAMILY PLANNING**

### **A brief history of the service in Worthing:—**

In 1963, following a public meeting, a local branch of the Family Planning Association was formed and the first Family Planning Clinic in Worthing was held on the 6th January, 1964. Weekly clinics were held in the Borough Council’s premises and no charge was made for rent, heating, lighting, etc.

When the 1967 Family Planning Act was passed, local health authorities were given a general power to make arrangements for giving advice on contraception and to supply contraceptive substances and appliances. These were to be available to any person who needed them on social grounds, and not (as hitherto) only in medical cases. No distinction was to be made between married and unmarried persons seeking advice and help.

In 1969, following discussions between the Family Planning Association and the Local Authority Associations, it was agreed that Local Authorities should move as quickly as possible towards providing under their own auspices a full and unrestricted Family Planning Service entirely free in all cases.

As a first stage towards this goal, the County and Borough Councils agreed that from April, 1970, they would accept full responsibility for providing free contraceptive advice and appliances for medical cases, and free advice only for non-medical cases. The service continued to be provided through the agency of the Family Planning Association.

In April of this year the County Council, and the Borough Council as Delegated Health Authority, took over administrative control of the Family Planning Service from the Family Planning Association although the same medical nursing and clerical staff continued to run the clinics in Worthing where ten sessions per week were now being held.

Contraceptives are now sold in the Health Department Clinic during normal office hours as well as in actual clinic sessions. The prices charged to “social” customers is the wholesale cost plus 10%. Previously contraceptives could only be obtained from the Family Planning Association Clinic during clinic sessions and at prices only slightly less than in retail shops.

The Clinic is held in the Central Clinic on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6 p.m. and on Thursdays and Fridays from 9.30 a.m.

The I.U.D. (intra-uterine device) Clinic is also held in the Central Clinic each Thursday afternoon and evening having previously been held at Worthing Hospital.

I am obliged to the Clinic Secretary for supplying the following statistics: —

Number of sessions in Central Clinic	..	245	(227)
Number of I.U.D. sessions	.. ..	74	(79)
Number of new patients seen (excluding transfers)	.. .. .	795	(883)
Number of transfer patients seen	..	149	(187)
Total number of patients seen (old, new and transfers)	.. .. .	5,635	(6,655)
Total attendances (including visits for supplies only)	.. .. .	7,285	(7,230)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

Of the new patients seen 223 were medical cases and 572 non-medical; 426 were married and 369 unmarried.

Number of new patients who were advised to use: —

Pill	.. .. .	472	(447)
Diaphragm	.. .. .	84	(159)
I.U.D.	.. .. .	54	(148)
Other Methods	.. .. .	173	(74)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		783	(828)
For consultation only	.. ..	12	(55)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		795	(883)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

The total number of “doctor sessions” in 1972 was 396 compared with 470 in 1971.

The Clinic Secretary also reports that in addition to giving contraceptive advice 1,108 cervical smears were taken.



In accordance with the National Health Service (Family Planning) Act 1967, the Borough Council has continued to provide free contraceptive advice and supplies for specified categories of patients in which pregnancy would be detrimental to health. These are: —

- 1 (a) Within 12 months of last confinement;  
(b) After birth of fifth child;
- 2 Where a medical or gynaecological condition existed which would make a further pregnancy dangerous;
- 3 Where there was a risk that a further pregnancy would impair health for mental, physical or social reasons;
- 4 Non-medical but needy cases.

In addition the doctor and nurse visited the home of those who had been referred to them for family planning advice and help as follows: —

Number of patients referred to domiciliary service .. .. .	20
Number of home visits made by doctor (old and new patients) ..	56
Number of home visits made by nurse (old and new patients) ..	66

**PRIVATE NURSING HOMES**

Under section 187 of the Public Health Act, 1936, nursing homes have to be registered with the County Council. The powers of registration, inspection, etc., have not been delegated to the Borough Council though 32 of the 62 registered nursing homes in West Sussex are in Worthing.

On 31st December, 1972, the 32 homes provided a total of 635 beds and catered for medical, surgical and convalescent cases.

**PRIVATE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY OR DISABLED**

These homes have to be registered with the County Council under Section 37 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. As with nursing homes the powers of registration and inspection, etc., have not been delegated to the Borough Council. On 31st December, 1972, there were 49 such homes in Worthing out of a total of 148 in the County as a whole.

Most of the 731 beds available are occupied by the aged and infirm who need looking after but no actual nursing care. Four homes cater for the blind only and provide a total of 123 beds. Three homes are registered for aged, infirm and disabled (64 beds).

**DAY CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY**

The Sidney Walter Centre first opened as a day centre for retired people in April, 1966. It provides recreational facilities (billiards, darts, newspapers, etc.) in warm and comfortable conditions, and is patronised by over 200 persons. Some come daily, others once or twice a week, and others only occasionally. There is no membership as such and all “senior citizens” are free to come and go as they please without payment.

A full-time hostess is present every day, and with the help of two part-time canteen assistants, she dispenses innumerable coffees and teas, and, on average 30 to 50 two-course cooked meals each week day. In 1972 7,578 main meals were served.



## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (Amendment) ACT, 1951

### Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No legal proceedings were necessary during the year.

### Section 50. Burial of the Dead.

Despite the benefits of the welfare state, it remains the local authority's duty to bury or cremate the body of any person in its district, where no disposal arrangements are made. Frequently this means the absence of relatives, friends or executors or more commonly lack of funds in any estate which would meet the ordinary funeral costs.

Six funerals were arranged during the year—1 fewer than in 1971—for one 41-year-old male who was a road accident victim and five females. Two of the latter were over 90 years of age. One 37-year-old female had been murdered for which her husband was later convicted but all others died of natural causes. Attempts are made to recover the costs incurred by the Corporation from any estate or death grant payable but seldom is there sufficient. Some of the costs were recovered in 5 instances.

## STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

Medical examinations are undertaken by staff of the Department in connection with teaching appointments and admission of student teachers to training colleges.

Blood samples are taken for Widal tests on all new employees working in the water department. The following summarises the work done during the year: —

<i>Department</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Borough Water Engineer (Widal tests) .. .. .	31 (39)	— (—)	31 (39)
Education (Teachers) .. .. .	3 (6)	— (4)	3 (10)
Entrants to Training Colleges ..	20 (23)	52 (44)	72 (67)
TOTAL ..	54 (68)	52 (48)	106 (116)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

Eleven medical examinations were carried out at the request of other Local Authorities in 1972, including one nursery nursing student for the W.S.C.C.

Prospective employees of the Borough Council complete a detailed statement outlining their past and present health, and this is scrutinised by one of the medical staff. In the event of any unsatisfactory medical history, an examination is carried out or further information is obtained (with the candidate's permission) from his or her own doctor.

The following is a summary of the work done during 1972.

**Health Statements Completed**

<i>Department</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Town Clerk .. ..	8	9	17
Borough Engineer .. ..	15	3	18
Borough Architect .. ..	6	1	7
Medical Officer of Health ..	—	14	14
Borough Treasurer .. ..	6	6	12
Borough Librarian .. ..	1	11	12
Borough Water Engineer ..	1	4	5
Director of Entertainment and Publicity .. ..	2	1	3
Borough Education Officer ..	3	5	8
Housing Manager .. ..	2	—	2
Justices Clerk's .. ..	1	5	6
Total	45 (44)	59 (54)	104 (98)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

# **Part III.**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

*(Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector)*



## INTRODUCTION

‘The old order changeth yielding place to new.’ Tennyson’s words are apt as the new formations of local government units become crystallised and the present system is brought to its close. Not only does the changing of the old order mean the removal from many local authorities of age-old duties, the establishment of new districts by shot-gun marriages, the divorce of medical officer of health from public health inspector, and the disintegration of the traditional public health department, but also it means the removal of statutory obligations to appoint certain officers. Public Health Officer Regulations requiring statutory health officer appointments and the production of reports such as this, are repealed by the Local Government Act, 1972.

Thus ends an era in which the health department has developed from public protector against infections and nuisances, to its present role of provider of a variety of medical services and a guardian of the environment to ensure not merely disease-free conditions but that these are such that life can be enjoyed to the full.

The schism of medical and environmental health duties will necessitate arrangements for adequate liaison between the two officers, especially where medical advice is required at district council level. In writing what will probably be my final report of this nature, tribute is readily paid to Medical Officers of Health over the years in ensuring that the Health Department has run as an efficient unit in which the atmosphere has always been of mutual help, confidence and co-operation. Such unity is essential in ensuring the maximum service to the public, and all members of the department who remain in local government wish their medical colleagues well with the Health Authorities of the future.

Much still remains to be done in environmental matters. Though general housing unfitness is a problem of the past, multi-occupation is spreading rapidly and this form of living produces social as well as public health problems because of shared amenities.

Food hygiene standards can never be regarded with complacency, especially with changing methods of food preparation and marketing. The measurement and control of noise will certainly receive greater emphasis and new legislation is proposed. These and the still vitally important elementary public health safeguards must ensure that environmental health will play a major part in the district councils’ functions of the future.

Visits made for all public health purposes in 1972 totalled 11,884 and details of these follow.

## GENERAL INSPECTIONS

General inspections included the following: —

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,828	(1,385)
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	369	(354)
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,992	(3,135)
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,042	(1,362)
Air Pollution Measurements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	290	(107)
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	289	(99)

Offices and Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	1,564	(1,416)
Pest Destruction	..	..	..	..	..	132	(285)
Noise Abatement Act	..	..	..	..	..	239	(297)
Various Premises	..	..	..	..	..	1,918	(1,757)
Interviews and unsuccessful visits	..	..	..	..	..	1,188	(1,348)
Food poisoning and infectious disease visits	..	..	..	..	..	33	(69)

903 (775) notices were served and 697 (643) notices complied with.

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

## HOUSING

1972 will be remembered as a year during which houses for sale reached peak prices and so great was the scramble for them that many were sold before the estate agent could advertise them. The word “gazumping” was frequently used, meaning that before an agreed purchase price could become the subject of a signed contract, the purchaser had been outbid by a newcomer in a type of housing auction.

This state of affairs—satisfactory for the owner-occupiers but of cold comfort to persons seeking to buy houses for the first time, resolved itself through sheer financial restrictions by the end of the year. All this had the inevitable result of reducing even further the number of houses for rent, the Corporation now clearly owning far more houses than private landlords collectively.

This spiralling value of housing also meant that it was economic to spend vast sums on improving older unfit houses for owner occupation, particularly with grant aid. There are still a few dozen sub-standard houses however, which are occupied by elderly tenants who do not welcome the disturbance occasioned by improvement.

One house which had been the subject of a Closing Order in 1970, was made fit and sold at what one would have considered a ridiculous price two years ago. A Closing Order was made however, on another terrace house which was rent controlled, lacking in amenities and possessed such extensive defects as to render repair and improvement uneconomic. The tenant was subsequently rehoused, leaving a house which could be sold with vacant possession at a greatly enhanced value by a grateful owner. The Closing Order will have to be determined when the house is made fit.

Structural repairs on privately rented unfurnished accommodation still present problems, especially where rents of £1 a week or less are the sole return. The rate of compulsory improvement on such property slowed down and only 8 were completed during the year as most owners and tenants have now taken advantage of grant aid coupled with rent decontrol.

As the stock of rented unfurnished accommodation further reduced, the pressure on furnished rooms or flats to rent increased. Most of the department’s housing work now is involved with surveying houses in multi-occupation, requiring the improvement of amenities and establishing the maximum number of persons permitted for occupation. More Direction Orders under section 19 of the Housing Act, 1961, will be served in future.

The only housing prosecution taken during the year was against one owner for failing to comply with 2 notices on a house in multiple occupation



lacking in adequate lighting, washing and cooking amenities. Fines totalling £100 plus £20 costs were imposed. The growing demand for small unit dwellings to rent is bound to result in an even greater spread of multi-occupation in Worthing, in future.

## Housing Inspections

Houses in multiple occupation .. .. .	548	(116)
Total number of dwelling-houses inspected (Public Health Act or Housing Act) .. .. .	1,280	(1,239)
No. of houses repaired after informal notice .. .. .	126	(144)
Statutory Notices served:		
(a) Public Health Act, 1936 and 1961 .. .. .	28	(18)
(b) Housing Act, 1957 and 1961 .. .. .	6	(7)
Defects remedied by:		
(a) Owner .. .. .	135	(15)
(b) Corporation in default .. .. .	—	(—)
Closing Orders made:		
Houses .. .. .	1	(5)
Closing Orders determined:		
Houses and Underground rooms .. .. .	2	(1)
Compulsory Improvements—existing areas:		
Immediate Improvement notices served .. .. .	—	(—)
Suspended Improvement notices served .. .. .	—	(—)
Undertaking accepted .. .. .	—	(—)
Deferred (tenants purchasing or being improved) .. .. .	—	(—)
Works completed .. .. .	4	(8)
Compulsory Improvements—not in areas:		
Tenants' representation .. .. .	2	(3)
Immediate Improvement Notices served .. .. .	2	(2)
Undertaking accepted .. .. .	—	(—)
Works completed .. .. .	4	(—)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

## RENT ACTS AND RENT CONTROL

The return for owners of rented accommodation continues to improve, but so far as unfurnished premises are concerned, it still lags far behind the rents which can be obtained from furnished tenancies. 25 applications for qualification certificates were received to enable rents of improved controlled property tenancies to become regulated and 35 were granted. These included a back log of applications from the previous year. A few applications were deferred until essential repairs had been carried out.

The tenant of unfurnished premises still enjoys rent control but also a greater security of tenure than a tenant of furnished premises. Rent Tribunals considered an increasing number of referrals from furnished premises tenants seeking protection of their tenancies for up to 6 months—which it is within the Tribunal's power to grant. This consideration is in addition to any rent reduction awarded by the Tribunal. The furnished tenant is also more susceptible to harassment or unlawful eviction attempts by his landlord and some 20 incidents were investigated by Health Inspectors during the year.



Most of these were resolved without difficulty when the legal procedure for obtaining possession was explained. Several landlords were threatened with prosecution during the year. The problem of the unsatisfactory tenant encourages landlords to short-circuit the proper procedure and first offences in unlawful eviction prosecutions do not usually attract heavy fines.

## **CARAVANS**

Itinerant caravan dwellers present little problem now that most of the susceptible areas of the borough have been built up.

Recreational caravan owners who are members of the Caravan Club have made continual use of a certificated location in Cote Street. Up to 5 caravans may be sited there without planning approval or an unlimited number forming a rally, for not more than 5 days. Organisers of one rally lasting 10 days were granted planning permission but because of the absence of convenient waste disposal facilities, the Health Committee requested that no similar future approvals be given.

Progress continued in negotiations between the Council and the Caravan Club with a view to the site on Titnore Road becoming available for use early in 1974. Approval for the Cote Street site would then be withdrawn.

## **CLEAN AIR**

The 10 year National Survey of air pollution carried out by the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Trade and Industry, ended in 1971. Worthing maintained 3 stations during this time and recorded daily the levels of smoke and sulphur dioxide. Another station was operative for part of this time in Beechams grounds and supervised by the Company. All reports were sent monthly to Warren Spring.

A report on this 10 year survey in the south eastern part of the country refers to the 3 main Sussex coastal towns and makes preliminary observations on their geographic location.

“The picture is therefore of large compact towns backed by hills, with their ventilation pattern complicated by alternating land and sea breezes which could hinder the free dispersion of pollutants.”

The report then refers in more detail to the comparative observations of Worthing sites.

“The site at Stoke Abbott Road just off the town centre, has shown a steady decrease in smoke over the years and now comes satisfactorily below the Regional Urban Average. There is no reason to suppose that the same is not true for the South Farm Road and Field Place areas although observations there were stopped in 1967. The very low smoke at the outskirts site in Clarendon Road is again very satisfactory considering how much housing there is.”

The inference from this Report is that domestic smoke control by statutory order does not appear justified in Worthing at present. Complaints continue from householders during the summer months of nuisance from domestic bonfires though these have lessened since facilities were made available for garden refuse to be deposited at the Hygiene Unit, free of charge, 7 days a week.

Intense nuisance can be experienced as a result of the clearance of sites for redevelopment in built-up areas. Contractors trying to avoid the expense of removal of trees, vegetation or demolished combustible material by burning on the site, can cause considerable nuisance even though this is of short duration. Present legislation is inadequate to effectively control this form of pollution which will have long since ceased by the time the earliest court hearing could be arranged, after the service of the appropriate notice. Similar procedure to that available to prevent the sale of unfit food is required—power for an order to be made by a Justice of the Peace—as an interim measure. One notice was served on a contractor under the Public Health (Recurring Nuisances) Act, 1969, which was complied with.

A few complaints about smell from Beechams factory manufacturing antibiotic preparations, were received. The odour can still be detected at times in various parts of the town depending on wind direction, velocity and humidity. The efforts by the company to seek a solution are protracted as numerous complicated processes are involved, but progress is slowly being made. Only if the Corporation were satisfied that the ‘best practicable means’ of reducing any nuisance were not being adopted, could statutory action be contemplated. There are good grounds to believe that further progress in odour control can be made.

Nuisance of a more local nature was experienced from the emission of sawdust and shavings from a joinery factory in Station Road. Pollution of the surrounding area occurred during the removal of this waste from the works and following the service of an Abatement Notice, a Nuisance Order was made by the Magistrates Court on the 18th December. Costs of £20 were awarded to the Corporation. Since the hearing, more satisfactory removal methods have been adopted.

**Average Quarterly Daily Smoke and SO2 Readings  
at Worthing Sites, 1972**

Site	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter	
	Smoke	SO <sub>2</sub>	Smoke	SO <sub>2</sub>	Smoke	SO <sub>2</sub>	Smoke	SO <sub>2</sub>
Health Dept.	44(31)	66(56)	6(11)	48(75)	9(10)	31(36)	25(38)	41(72)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)  
All figures are in micrograms per cu. metre.

**FOOD SAMPLING**

This is the only duty of environmental health departments which will no longer be carried out by district councils from April 1974. In future, ‘food and drugs authorities’ will be county councils and the enforcement officer will so far as West Sussex is concerned, be the Weights and Measures



Whilst the loss of some duties at local level may be deplored, it cannot be denied that with the growth of food manufacture on a national—and increasingly international—scale, food and drugs legislation enforcement should be on a regional or area basis. Furthermore, as the deliberate adulteration of food or drugs with harmful substances is now negligible, the association of this duty with health protection has now disappeared.

As in previous years, the majority of the samples reported as unsatisfactory by the Public Analyst, concerned labelling misdescriptions.

In 4 raw minced beef samples, some preservative was detected due, it was suspected, to equipment being used for preparation after its use for sausage preparation in which the preservative was permitted. The appropriate warning was given. 4 samples were submitted containing obvious foreign matter for identification where court cases were envisaged and these are dealt with under ‘food complaints’ below.

No prosecution was taken during the year on purely food and drug contraventions, and all the irregularities were taken up and remedied informally by the manufacturer.

The following tables give details of the food sampled and those reported unsatisfactory, which were 9% of the total.

**Food sampled in 1972**

				<i>Number of Samples</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Not Genuine</i>
Ice Cream .. .. .	..	..	..	1	1	—
Cream and Milk Products ..	..	..	..	12	10	2
Cheese and Cheese Products ..	..	..	..	10	10	—
Flour and Cereals .. .. .	..	..	..	11	10	1
Spirits, Wines and Beer ..	..	..	..	12	12	—
Medicine .. .. .	..	..	..	36	36	—
Cakes and Sugar Confectionery ..	..	..	..	8	6	2
Cordials and Health Drinks ..	..	..	..	5	5	—
Fish and fish products .. .. .	..	..	..	3	3	—
Sausages .. .. .	..	..	..	20	18	2
Meat and Chicken Products ..	..	..	..	44	36	8
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	..	..	7	7	—
TOTAL ..				169	154	15

**Irregularities reported in samples**

Milk, homogenised .. .. .	1	Glass in bottle
Cream, tinned .. .. .	1	Incorrectly labelled
Flour .. .. .	1	Foreign matter
Cakes and bread .. .. .	1	Foreign matter
Chocolate .. .. .	1	Foreign matter
Sausages .. .. .	2	Excess of preservative
Meat pies and chicken products	5	Non permitted preservative
	1	Incorrectly labelled
	1	Insufficiency of kidney
	1	Misdescribed in Analyst’s opinion



## COMPLAINTS ABOUT FOOD

Complaints from members of the public about food, again rose substantially—167 compared with 109 in 1971. This has more than doubled in 3 years and as may be imagined, the investigation of these complaints now takes up a not inconsiderable part of Health Inspectors' time. Whether this increase results from greater national publicity in court cases or other reports of the condition of food or an actual deterioration in manufacturing and handling methods, it is impossible to say. Increasing mechanical manufacture of food and drink and more detached supervision must play its part, but there is still too much mystique surrounding production dates and shelf life of perishable foods. Regulations requiring the explicit labelling of manufacture or 'sell-by' dates, recommended by the Food Standards Committee during the year, will enable purchasers to determine clearly how fresh is food.

As the following tables show, there was almost equal balance between unfitness and foreign matter. Understandably, the highly perishable foods deteriorated in greater numbers and there can be little excuse for these sales when their short life is so well known. Retailers still rely too much on manufacturers representatives checking their stock, rather than adopting their own coding system and it is sometimes difficult to determine upon whom the blame must lie when stale food is sold.

Foreign matter is usually traceable to some defect in manufacture, storage or handling in the course of distribution to retailers. Sometimes an inference of "sabotage" by a disgruntled employee, is given as an excuse by manufacturers—and this may be not without some foundation. At other times, carelessness is evident. How otherwise could a 1oz. brass weight find its way into a tin of mixed vegetables? Cigarette ends also could be attributed to one or other of these reasons, as smoking is now prohibited in food manufacture.

Unsubstantiated complaints also cover a wide range. Is it possible to detect a small amount of water in whisky? One seasoned consumer of Bells' whisky averred that a nip sold over a bar was adulterated and emptied the portion into an empty medicine bottle and brought it to the department. The Public Analyst later reported the whisky as genuine and confirmed that small amounts are not detectable by taste.

Another lady complainant alleged that her lodger was poisoning her coffee and brought in a sample as proof. The investigating Inspector used his own methods to prove that this was not so without incurring public expense by sending the sample for analysis.

Many people are under the impression that any suspect material can be brought to the department and submitted for examination as of right. This of course is not so. The cost of analysis of food—£6 a sample to food and drugs authorities for routine examination—does not allow for frivolous examination, though discretion is exercised in deciding how helpful a chemical analysis will be in the investigation of a consumer's complaint.

Samples of food or indeed almost any material can be submitted to the Public Analyst privately by any person. It would be wise to enquire first of the possible expenses to be incurred however. Analyses by skilled chemists are not necessarily cheap, as one ratepayer who thought his gold fish pond water was being poisoned and sent samples for analysis, learned to his cost.

Particulars of the food complaints were: —

## Unfit Food

*(Mould or other deterioration)*

Meat products .. .. .	25
Milk, yoghurt, cream and cheese products ..	24
Bread and cake confectionery .. ..	12
Fruit and fruit products .. .. .	9
Butter .. .. .	1
Jam .. .. .	1
Fish products .. .. .	4

In addition the following were of sufficiently doubtful fitness or substance demanded to justify withdrawal from sale :—

Severely damaged packets of biscuits  
Torn wrapping on loaf, loaf dirty  
Tins marked broad beans contained peas  
Insufficiency of pineapple in pineapple cheese spread  
Poor lining of meat cans

## Foreign Matter Found

Meat and bacon products:	Pieces of metal (2), staples (4), maggot (2), metal clip, piece of rubber, fly.
Cheese: .. ..	Grease.
Tinned fruit: .. ..	Piece of wood, cigarette end.
Tinned vegetables: .. ..	Staples, string (2), cigarette end, pieces of pod, fly, brass weight, glass (2), snail shell, paint chipping.
Fish and tinned fish: .. ..	Piece of glass, plastic material, match-stick.
Crisps: .. ..	First aid dressing.
Bread and cakes: .. ..	Carbonised fat, grease (5), lumps of colouriser, screw, whole wheat grain, cigarette end, glass (2), fly, plastic bristle, wire, stale dough, lumps of yeast.
Cereals: .. ..	Insect larvae (2), mouse droppings, maggots, carbonised cereal.
Yoghurt: .. ..	Glass, piece of plastic.
Chocolate: .. ..	Metal.
Biscuits and crisps: .. ..	Pieces of fibre (2), wood.
Sweets .. ..	Pieces of glove, insect.
Ice cream: .. ..	Cigarette end.
Cordials: .. ..	Glass.
Milk and butter: .. ..	Grease (2), piece of metal, unidentified foreign body.



## Complaints not substantiated

Struvites in salmon.  
Dripping of poor quality.  
Brown colouring of dried milk.  
Frozen pies kept in home freezer for 4 months not up to standard.  
Alleged poisoning of complainant's coffee.  
Tenderised beef too tender.  
Braised steak too gristly.  
Two complaints of a live centipede and a millipede found in loaves of bread already opened.  
Mouse in box of cakes.  
Tripe tasting of bleach.  
Flavour of peaches and apricots.  
Watered whisky.  
Peel in a jar of marmalade.  
A mouse dropping in a piece of meat—proved to be a small blood clot.  
Meat was horsemeat.  
Mould on wine gums—was dusting sugar.  
Bread was still not fresh after 4 days from purchase.  
Flavour of low calorie lemon drink.  
Tinned tomatoes with peculiar taste.  
Fly in a frozen chicken pack—kept in home larder.

## Prosecutions

Only 3 were taken during the year, all under section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as follows: —

- 3.2.72 Foodrite Ltd.—sale of 3 mouldy loaves—Not Guilty plea, cross-summonsed Lyons Bread Co. as suppliers who pleaded guilty. Lyons were fined £120 and £7 costs.  
3.3.72 Acres the Bakers Ltd.—sale of sausage roll containing metal (Allen key). Guilty plea—fined £35 and £5 costs.  
14.7.72 Acres the Bakers Ltd.—sale of mouldy cake—Guilty Plea—fined £100 and £10 costs.

## GENERAL FOOD INSPECTION

This concerns general items of food brought to the department for examination and possible certification for unfitness. The majority of this material nowadays is frozen food which is thawing out due to refrigerator breakdown, as the figures below show. The problem in such instances is to determine how soon the thawed food is likely to be consumed, for initially there can be no hazard in its consumption. Deterioration is rapid however in many frozen foods and as saleability must be an important consideration, it is inevitable that when thawing starts, unless there are strong grounds to believe that consumption can be immediate, the whole stock must be destroyed.

Food condemned as unfit:	..	..	4 tons 2¼ cwts.—total
Frozen food destroyed as a result of refrigeration breakdown (included in previous figure):	..	..	3 tons 3½ cwts.



One interesting request for an assessment of food fitness in a private house concerned fillets of cured haddock which had been recently purchased. The occupier noticed during a complete black-out of her district during the power cuts in February resulting from the coal miners' strike, that the fish emitted a weird fluorescent glow and feared some strange visitation upon it. The Inspector was able to reassure her that the fish was perfectly fresh and fit to eat, the phosphorescence being caused by micro-organisms — 'pseudomonas phosphorescens' — which are widely distributed in seawater. The organisms are harmless and indeed disappear when decomposition commences.

This at least was one of the 'lighter' incidents occurring during a disturbing period of rationed artificial light.

## MEAT INSPECTION

The slaughter of animals for human consumption has now become a specialist activity—a far cry from the days when every back street butcher had his own slaughterhouse at the rear of his shop. The centralisation of slaughterhouses ensures a higher standard of hygiene and has brought to an end the nuisances associated with the slaughter of animals in built up areas. Inspections can now be carried out more in satisfactory circumstances—almost in office hours.

Worthing's only slaughterhouse—adapted to comply with modern regulations—is now nearly 100 years old. Though situated undesirably near residential property, few complaints are received of its activities which is a tribute to the management. It is surprising perhaps that it continues at all in view of the age of the buildings, increasing maintenance costs and the problems of finding suitable staff.

The annual kill actually increased during 1972 from 13,087 to 13,969, the highest for some years. Slightly more cattle but substantially more sheep were slaughtered. Inspection is shared on rota by the 6 District Health Inspectors who have played no small part in ensuring that the 3 student Inspectors under training are made familiar with specimens. As few local authorities have their own slaughterhouse these days, this is an important training facility—even though the comparatively small kill does not produce a great variety of diseased specimens. Like many human diseases, however, many of the old conditions such as tuberculosis and actinomycosis are seldom encountered among food animals, thanks to better husbandry.

Meat inspection will continue to be a duty of district councils after 1974 re-organisation, but Ministry of Agriculture veterinary interest in this subject grows noticeably. It seems inevitable that full Ministerial Veterinary control will follow before long, especially with the need for parity in legislation with European countries.

All meat is inspected and the carcasses are stamped with each Inspector's individual stamp before leaving the premises. As the following table shows, no inconsiderable amount of meat has still to be rejected as a result of parasitic conditions (offal) localised disease, or injury. Tuberculosis is now only seen in pigs. A total of 8 tons 13¼ cwt. of offal and carcase meat had to be condemned. This is removed in locked containers and sterilised before manufacture into animal feeding stuffs and fertilisers.

Charges for the inspection of each carcase are borne by the slaughterhouse proprietors and are as follows: —

Beasts	18p
Calves and pigs	5p
Sheep	4p

The income from this totalled £795.58 for the year, compared with £603.82 in 1971. The charges are the maximum permitted by the Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1971.

The following table is prepared in accordance with the Ministry requirements: —

**Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or part**

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected ...	8 56	46	136	2,013	10,918
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>					
Whole carcases condemned...	1	9	9	6	40
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	123	19	2	70	1,572
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ... ..	14.5 %	60.9 %	8.0 %	3.7 %	14.8 %
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>					
Whole carcases condemned...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	89
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	—	—	—	—	0.8 %
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

**DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS**

As there are no markets, piggeries, animal or poultry rearing establishments on any large commercial scale, these controls seldom affect Worthing apart from the issue of and receipt of movement licences of animals to the slaughterhouse.

1,727 pigs were the subject of Movement licences in this way in view of the circumstances relating to their removal for slaughter. Happily no outbreaks of foot and mouth disease occurred in Sussex—indeed there were



very few in the country in 1972. Towards the end of the year, however, an unusual infection broke out in pigs in Marston, Staffs. known as Swine Vesicular Disease, which was to have far reaching consequences throughout 1973 in the country.

### MILK SAMPLING

The pattern of raw milk collection now precludes sampling of individual producers' milk on arrival at the dairy. Bulk tankers collect milk from storage tanks at the farm in many parts of Sussex—one tanker could contain the milk of 20 or more producers. A few smaller producers' churn milk is still sent to Hove and Guildford dairies.

As the treatment and general distribution of milk is in the hands of large companies who employ their own laboratory staff, there is less need for local authority sampling. Nevertheless, samples are taken as a general check on the efficiency of heat treatment and storage methods, from the dairy, roundsman or from retail shops. As can be seen below, no sample failed to comply with the appropriate statutory tests.

Chemical sampling—for the presence of added water or antibiotics, the latter of which may have gained entry through treatment of a diseased cow whose milk was not excluded from the supply as instructed—is still carried out on the retail supply. Without taking samples at the farm, it is no longer possible due to the bulk tanker collection system, however, to isolate individual offenders.

No samples are now taken in Worthing for the presence of tubercle or the other human transmissible infection — brucella abortus. All milk sold in the town is heat treated and therefore perfectly safe. The Ministry of Agriculture's brucella-free herd policy continues to gain momentum to eliminate any further risk of infection in the raw supply.

Some 11,850 gallons of raw milk are processed daily at Home Counties Dairy, Penfold Road—a branch of Unigate—from 64 producers. This consists of 2,050 gallons of Channel Island Milk from 18 producers, and the remaining 9,800 gallons from 46 producers.

Details of licences and samples taken for statutory tests are given: —

Licence holders:

Dealers "Untreated"	..	..	—
„ "Pasteurised"	..	..	1
„ Prepacked Licences	..	..	96

Samples submitted for turbidity, phosphatase, methylene blue tests: —

Designation					No. taken	Unsatisfactory
Untreated	..	..	..	..	Nil	Nil
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	46	1
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	7	Nil
Ultra Heat Treated	..	..	..	..	9	Nil

### ICE CREAM

Though no food infections have been traced to ice cream since the heat treatment regulations were introduced in 1959, the potentialities as a vehicle for such infections still exist if it is not handled properly. A delay in freezing a constituted mix which has been contaminated could provide opportunities for bacterial growth and refreezing thawed ice cream not only is illegal but similarly could prove a hazard. The manner in which soft ice cream is produced in mobile vehicles can be subject to abuse particularly if the cleansing of the equipment does not strictly follow the instructions.

Generally the samples taken for the non-statutory tests which are a guide to its hygienic condition, showed that ice cream sold in the town is of satisfactory purity.

Results of samples taken: — (including soft ice cream)

<i>Taken</i>	<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Grade 4</i>
56	28	22	5	1

16 iced lolly samples proved satisfactory.

Soft Ice Cream

<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Grade 4</i>
4	1	4	—

**POULTRY INSPECTION**

The consumption of poultry rivals that of meat and fish and the intensified production of it can be a health hazard and a nuisance. No large scale premises exist in Worthing and all but 1 of the small poultry and egg rearing businesses have disappeared in the course of housing redevelopment.

The sole establishment includes a mixed greengrocery business and no organised inspection of poultry carcasses took place in view of the spasmodic nature of the slaughter.

Birds are killed manually.

(1) Number of part time poultry processing premises within the district .. .. .	1
(2) Number of visits to these premises .. .. .	5
(3) Total number of birds processed during the year	300
(4) Types of birds processed—capons and broilers and turkeys .. .. .	—
(5) Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption .. .. .	less than 1%
(6) Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption .. .. .	less than ¼ cwt.

(Christmas killing period only)

**GENERAL FOOD PREMISES**

<i>Kinds of Business</i>	<i>No.</i>
Restaurants, Cafes and other premises selling meals and drink	512
Grocers, Dairy Shops .. .. .	126
Butchers, Fishmongers and Fish Fryers .. .. .	95
Fruiterers, Greengrocers .. .. .	80
Bread and Flour, Confectionery .. .. .	59
Confectioners, Tobacconists, etc. .. .. .	124

Retail food shops seldom give rise to concern these days from a structural or cleanliness point of view. The traditional restaurants and hotels also in the main have reached and maintain a satisfactory standard.

Most public houses now include full catering with their services and the cleanliness of some of these has deteriorated on occasions.



Complaints about food premises are received from time to time from visitors, sad to relate, though these mainly relate to staff, their personal appearance or behaviour in connection with food hygiene. Untidy appearance—particularly long and ill kept hair—soiled overalls and habits such as picking cups up with the rim, handling cutlery with other than the handles, coughing into hands then handling food—all are disagreeable practices which rightly evoke complaint. The problem of obtaining suitable staff in any of the service industries is well known but more effective management control would obviate many of these habits which invite criticism.

The support of the licensing justices is warmly acknowledged and the threat of the removal or refusal of a licence can have a greater salutary effect than even the possibility of a fine.

No prosecutions were taken during the year and the general standard of premises in the borough remained satisfactorily high.

## **FOOD VEHICLES AND STALLS**

Apart from the weekly market in Surrey Street—where there are a few greengrocery stalls—and the beach fishmongers, food is sold only from mobile vehicles. These include greengrocery delivery vehicles—fish and chip vans, hot dog and snack vehicles and a number of ice cream vans, all of which are properly adapted and designed for hygienic handling.

One ice cream vehicle owner was fined £10 and £3 costs for failing to display his name and address on the vehicle. This may seem trivial but numerous warnings had been issued in the past and there had been previous convictions for food offences.

Beach fish stalls operate spasmodically, controlled entirely by the prevalence of fish in the adjoining sea and by weather. Few of these stalls have a continuous water supply and none has proper drainage, which makes cleanliness and hygienic waste disposal to a satisfactory standard impossible. The solution would lie in the provision of these amenities at selected trading points and for sale otherwise to be prohibited.

## **RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951**

The only registered premises operated spasmodically during the year and for long periods had no materials which could be sampled under the Act. Previous samples have always proved satisfactory.

## **NOISE**

85 complaints were received from members of the public about sources of noise—excluding all the signatories of petitions. This is almost double the 48 of 1971 and reflects an increasing awareness that not only can noise be a nuisance but the public look to the local authority to do something about it.

Motor vehicles are still the largest contribution to the ambient noise level, few areas being unaffected to some degree. Only major and costly traffic re-routing, coupled with much greater control over engine noise,

can combine in overcoming this problem. Even so there are many activities which can at little extra cost, reduce noise output. Residents in the vicinity of clubs, pubs, hotels and premises holding late functions in particular, complain about personal noise on leaving these premises. In these instances, the police are only able to enforce controls relating to public nuisance. The Corporation can require the reduction of noise emanating from the premises however.

It is perhaps unfortunate that modern enjoyment must be associated—certainly for the young—with amplified music of such volume as to render normal conversation between patrons impossible. Few buildings are adapted or insulated sufficiently to contain the noise emitted, so that nearby residents are not surprisingly affected.

Whilst exposure to high noise levels for brief periods may do little harm to the hearing, continuous exposure has been shown without doubt to affect performers later in life. It is now possible to incorporate in the electrical amplifying equipment a cut-out device which after a suitable warning light has appeared, breaks the electrical circuit at a pre set dB A output (about 90, usually). This can be adjusted so that performers, patrons and neighbours can receive some protection.

As the table below shows, construction noise and entertainment noise were equal cause for complaints. The redevelopment of a building site can be productive of as much noise as air pollution, particularly as more sites are being redeveloped in densely built-up areas. Restriction of the hours of noisy activities, insulation and screening—can do much to alleviate nuisance.

More difficult to control is the noise of vehicles leaving depots at the early hours of the day, carrying out their legitimate business. Provided vehicle and human noise is kept to a minimum, little can be done about this form of complaint.

Among matters which could be controlled either by reduction of the noise source or the restriction of the time of emission, were general commercial noise (4), bird scarers (2), electrical equipment (4), dog barking (3) and cock crowing (2).

Breakdown of noise complaints: —

General entertainment (noise from clubs, etc.)	..	..	15
Construction noise	..	..	15
Vehicle noise at extreme hours	..	..	12
General commercial activities	..	..	4
Refrigeration and electrical equipment	..	..	6
Miscellaneous	..	..	33

The hazards associated with proving nuisance in court encourage the informal approach, by all local authorities. Frequently this is sufficient to secure a reduction, if not always the complete elimination, of noise. The only prosecutions taken during the year were where specific hourly restriction of advertising noise from vehicles, exists. The Noise Abatement Act, 1960, prohibits advertising chimes from ice cream vehicles between noon and 7 p.m. Two offenders were prosecuted for contraventions. One was fined £17 for 2 offences and the other £10.



Competition among mobile ice cream vans is keen and the first round on a Sunday morning appears to be able to score heavily over his rivals, hence the temptation to announce his presence early. Repeated fines proving that contravention of the Act is unprofitable, can remedy this situation. Complaints are received from members of the public from time to time about ice cream van chimes, but not as many as might be thought in view of their penetrating sound, duration and repetition.

### RODENT CONTROL

Slight increase in the number of infestations was noted. In the main, individually these were small for people are quick to report the presence of rats or mice but not so prudent in using all means to deny these pests ready access to food.

One of the few major infestations encountered for some years was still under treatment from the end of 1971 and concerned a granary on the rural outskirts. The absence of any proofing whatsoever and the abundance of water and harbourage provided ideal conditions for attracting rats for some distance around. This was cleared up after some 170lb. of poison bait was put down. Several hundred rats were destroyed.

Modern building materials, especially P.V.C. drain pipes can enable rats to gain entry to buildings. Instances are encountered also of infestation resulting from the incomplection by builders of drain joints and openings.

Warfarin, the anti-blood coagulant poison is still effective for rats in this area. It cannot be long however before the immunity confirmed in increasing parts of the country, makes the use of other more dangerous poisons necessary.

Mice again presented control problems, especially in commercial premises. Traps, properly sited, insecticidal tracking dust and zinc phosphide bait all have to be used at times.

Sewer treatment was carried out using fluorocetamide. Details of work done: —

No. of complaints—Rats	..	..	..	516	(414)
Mice	..	..	..	391	(381)
No. of premises cleared of rodents	..	..		849	(782)
No. of visits	..	..	..	2,882	(2,665)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

Properties other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district ..	440,79	47
2. (a) total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification .. .. .	1796	4
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats ..	423	3
(ii) Mice ..	359	1
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification .. .. .	628	34
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats ..	55	5
(ii) Mice ..	17	2

## GENERAL PEST CONTROL

Complaints and requests for help can cover a wide variety of insects, many of which have no public health significance. So numerous are these requests that pamphlets have had to be prepared on such nuisance pests as ants, woodlice, carpet beetles, woodworm and wasps so that people can treat these themselves.

Public health pests such as fleas, bedbugs and lice, all of which are still encountered occasionally, are treated without charge. A charge is made for treating cockroaches in commercial premises, however, but most of the larger hotels, restaurants and shops employ their own contractors.

Wasps become an annual nuisance during the late summer and early autumn. Where nests are accessible without the use of ladders, these are destroyed on request at a charge of £1. 83 nests were treated in this way and advice together with a small amount of insecticide powder, was given in a further 92 instances for do-it-yourself treatment.

Pigeons have now become firmly established as a permanent urban nuisance and 70 complaints about them were received. Attempts to destroy them by trapping, night shooting or stupefying bait are often hampered by public sympathisers. For the sixth year running, a contract with Rentokil was renewed and over 400 birds were destroyed. Hotels and premises along the seafront suffer most from feral pigeon infestations of buildings, principally because misguided but well meaning old ladies persist in daily feeding.

Other pests hitherto associated with rural districts are fast becoming esconced in urban areas where wood pigeons, squirrels and rabbits now find ready shelter and easier pickings. Though not of public health significance, the damage they do to crops and garden produce is considerable and people tend to look to the local authority for help. Destruction of these creatures is more difficult than for rodents and no staff is available in what can be very time consuming exercises. Certain private individuals make a valuable contribution to control in certain areas—as a hobby.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no such premises in the borough.

## MISCELLANEOUS DUTIES

The following premises have to be licensed by the Council and received various visits during the year: —

Riding Establishments Acts, 1964 & 1970—3 licensed premises, Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964—11 registered premises, Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963—1 licensed premises, Pet Animals Act, 1951—8 licensed premises.

The Pet Animals Act licence for the use of a lock-up shop in Portland Market, Portland Road, was not renewed on expiry at the end of the year. Not only had complaints been received about the premises, but the proprietor had shown himself to be unable to maintain the standard required.

Fouling of pavements by dogs produces heated and bitter arguments in most towns from time to time. Worthing is no exception and the Health Committee have repeatedly and at length discussed ways in which this type of nuisance can be ameliorated. A poster and leaflet campaign in an attempt to educate dog owners had some success but the Highways Com-



mittee felt unable to justify on safety grounds the introduction of the appropriate bye-law requiring dogs on certain traffic routes to be kept on a lead.

The only prosecution by the Council for allowing a dog to foul a footway, was taken during the year. The defendant who pleaded guilty was fined £5 and £2 costs. The difficulty in such matters is obtaining proper evidence and people are reluctant to testify. Much of the footway fouling appears to be done by loose running dogs.

**OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

A separate report on the enforcement of the Act has already been sent to the Department of Employment and Productivity but reference is made to it here as part of the Health Department’s general duties.

The first prosecution to be taken since the Act came into force, was heard during the year. One launderette was fined £105 with £25 costs for contravening 7 requirements affecting lighting, ventilation, temperature, absence of first aid equipment and unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation. The persistent neglect occurred over a long period but the service of the summonses produced quicker results than has previous correspondence. Other contraventions were remedied without difficulty.

36 notified accidents were investigated. Though work in premises subject to the Act is not normally considered as hazardous as that in factories or building operations, nasty accidents can still occur, especially where mechanical equipment is involved.

*Analysis of Persons Employed in registered premises by workplace:—*

Class of workplace	Numbers of persons employed
Offices ... ..	3,583
Retail shops ... ..	3,751
Wholesale departments, warehouses ... ..	210
Catering establishments open to the public ... ..	832
Canteens ... ..	53
Fuel storage depots ... ..	—
Total ... ..	8,492
Total males ... ..	3,547
Total females ... ..	4,882

Analysis of Contraventions:—

Section	Number of contraventions found	Section	Number of contraventions found
4	Cleanliness .. .. 34	15	Eating facilities .. —
5	Overcrowding .. .. 1	16	Floors, passages and stairs .. .. 12
6	Temperature .. .. 3	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery .. .. —
7	Ventilation .. .. 1		Lifts and Hoists ... 4
8	Lighting .. .. 2	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery .. .. —
9	Sanitary conveniences .. 11	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery .. .. —
10	Washing facilities .. 13	23	Prohibition of heavy work .. .. —
11	Supply of drinking water .. .. —	24	First aid—general provisions .. .. 17
12	Clothing accommodation —		
13	Sitting facilities .. —		
14	Seats (sedentary workers) 1		
			Total .. .. 99

FACTORIES

Enforcement of the Factories Acts by local authorities mainly concerns maintenance of adequate sanitary accommodation. It is possible that this duty could pass to the Factory Inspectorate some time in the future.

Details of action taken during the year: —

Factories Act, 1961—Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	16	17	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	348	285	3
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises). .. ..	59	67	4
TOTAL .. ..	423	369	8



## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) .. .. .	7	10	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .. .. .	1	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .. .. .	2	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) insufficient .. .. .	1	1	—	1
(b) unsuitable or defective .. .. .	11	10	—	1
(c) not separate for sexes .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. .. .	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .. .. .	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>

## Outworkers

Five firms employ 13 persons working in their own homes, whose names and addresses are required to be notified to the Council. In the event of work being carried on in unsatisfactory premises, the Council has power to require its discontinuance.

## WORTHING CREMATORIUM

There was a slight reduction in the number of bodies cremated during 1972. This was due to the greater use made of the new crematorium at Chichester and not to a fall in the total number of deaths, nor to a lessening in popularity of this means of disposal.

Cremation papers that have been checked by the medical referees (your Medical Officer of Health and his medical staff) since the opening of the crematorium in 1968 are as follows: —

1968	..	..	2,606
1969	..	..	3,034
1970	..	..	3,510
1971	..	..	3,367
1972	..	..	2,967

## MORTUARY

This continued to provide an essential service for 340 post mortem examinations were carried out on behalf of the Coroner—3 more than last year. The building nears the end of its useful life however, as future facilities are being incorporated in present hospital extensions.

The attendant for 30 years—Mr. G. W. Hooper—has indicated his wish to retire at the end of the year. During that time he rendered exemplary service in a difficult and far from sought after occupation. His family had been continuously associated with the Mortuary for over 100 years—a tradition continuing as his son takes over from him in 1973.

## **DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL**

Cesspool reduction continued slowly for only 15 were eliminated, leaving 185 premises still unconnected to main sewers. Even with grant aid available, it was realised that the hard core of cesspools remaining were unable to be eliminated without the extension of branch sewers which should be laid within reach of these properties. The Council accepted that major expenditure was now necessary and obtained Department of Environment approval to key sector expenditure of £180,000 in a 3 year programme, for this purpose.

Work on a major sewer scheme to relieve flooding in central areas was completed during the year. Unfortunately this cannot be operative until a pumping station at the sewage works is completed—possibly by 1974.

Under local government reorganisation proposals, it is now certain that the future responsibility for sewage disposal and possibly trunk sewers, will pass to the new Regional Water Authority. Refuse disposal will be a future County Council function, after 1st April 1974. It seems possible, however, that agency arrangements will enable the Council to continue in control of both these basic and essential public health services for some years.

As refuse collection will remain a district council function, close liaison will have to be maintained between the two authorities. Refuse disposal becomes an increasing problem as available tipping space is used up. Greater control over disposal areas is essential if public health nuisance is to be avoided in built-up areas.

The Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act, 1972, requires prior notification of the removal of toxic material from premises to approved disposal areas. This was introduced following the discovery of cyanide drums and other poisonous refuse which had been dumped in several parts of the country.

Beechams Research Laboratories were the only premises in Worthing likely to be affected by the Act, though all likely industries were circulated regarding their responsibilities under the Act. Regular details of Beechams' waste removal are received, the destination for which approval has been given.

The Borough Engineer controls both these functions. The Hygiene Unit, Meadow Road, is open to members of the public between 8 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. daily, so that garden and other refuse not normally collected, can be left. This has meant fewer incidents of irresponsible dumping and is a popular and increasingly used service.

## **WATER SUPPLIES**

The water supply undertaking is owned and managed by the Borough Council. I am indebted to the Water Engineer, Mr. H. A. Leader, for the following report: —

1. Examination of all water samples has been carried out in the laboratory of the Brighton Water Department.

2. The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quantity and quality during the year.

3. Bacteriological examination of the raw waters was made at weekly intervals except at Burpham Pumping Station where samples were examined daily. The treated waters at all stations have been examined on a similar basis. The total number of raw and treated water samples taken from the



pumping stations together with a summary of the bacteriological results obtained is shown below: —

	Raw Water	Treated Water
No. of samples examined .. .. .	967	1,080
No. showing presence of Coliform Organisms in 100 ml.	530	25
No. showing E. Coli present in 100 ml. .. ..	470	16
No. showing Coliform Organisms absent from 100 ml. ..	437	1,055

Abbreviated chemical examinations were carried out at weekly intervals throughout the year on all raw waters and a general chemical and mineral examination has been made at regular intervals on the Undertaking's sources.

Bacteriological examinations together with chloramine determinations have also been made on 260 samples of water from service reservoirs. All but one were satisfactory.

A total number of 3,163 samples were examined during the year, four of which were deposits.

4. Since all waters are obtained from the chalk there is little likelihood of any plumbo-solvent action and no evidence of such action is apparent.

5. Chlorination with or without post-ammoniation of all raw waters is practised continuously with the exception of the pumping stations at Northbrook, Stanhope Lodge and Burpham Nos. 3 and 4 boreholes where super and de-chlorination is utilised before the addition of ammonia to form chloramine in the final treated water.

SWIMMING BATHS

The popularity of swimming as a recreation is now such that the Aquarena is frequently at maximum capacity and a public pool at the Sports Centre would be welcomed. Apart from public swimming and paddling pools, regular samples are taken from 8 other school, hotel or sports pools to ensure bacteriological purity. One pool is being modernised at the Department's advice because of its failure to satisfy recommended standards however.

Mr. David Easton, Director of Entertainments and Publicity has kindly supplied me with the following particulars of the use made by the Council's Aquarena: —

Public attendances .. .. .	296,157	(232,828)
Borough and County Schools .. ..	60,577	(58,684)
Private Schools .. .. .	1,220	(1,512)
Club Night attendances .. .. .	80,935	(79,980)
Swimming Galas .. .. .	10,650	(12,700)
The public attendances comprised: — TOTAL ..	449,539	(385,704)
Adult swimmers .. .. .	87,870	(70,674)
Child swimmers .. .. .	174,169	(133,332)
Spectators .. .. .	34,118	(28,822)
TOTAL ..	296,157	(232,828)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)





# **Part IV.**

## **SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE**

## SCHOOL POPULATION

The number of children on the rolls of maintained schools at the end of 1972 had risen slightly compared with the previous year: —

Type of school	Number of schools		Number on roll	
	1971	1972	1971	1972
Primary ... ..	15	16	6146	6104
Secondary :				
Grammar ... ..	3	3	1819	1821
Modern ... ..	5	5	3098	3294
Special ... ..	2	2	231	223
Fitz-Alan Howard Centre ...	1	1	14	14
Total ... ..	26	27	11308	11456

The children attending the special units (the partially hearing at Downsbrook Primary School and the emotionally disturbed at the Remedial Centre) are included in the above figures. Those attending the Remedial Centre, whether part-time or full-time, remain on the registers of their own schools.

In addition to the 27 maintained schools and the Fitz-Alan Howard Centre, there were in Worthing in 1972, four independent schools providing full-time education (day or boarding). This excludes private day nurseries and playgroups, some of which have nursery school facilities.

## MEDICAL INSPECTION

At periodic medical inspections 2,887 pupils were examined compared with 2,326 in 1971. The general physical condition was recorded as satisfactory in 99.8%. At these inspections 317 children (11.0% of those examined) were found to require treatment for some condition. As in previous years the commonest defect discovered was impaired visual acuity. 169 such children were referred for treatment—53.3% of those with defects and 5.8% of all who were examined.

Vision testing is carried out at the three routine inspections during a child's school life and also in addition at age 8, 16 and 17 (if still at school). All children found to have defective vision are seen yearly until known to be under the regular care of an ophthalmologist or optician, should this be necessary.

Every endeavour is made to test the vision of very young children. This may not be easy because they are often too shy to co-operate, or they may not yet know their capital letters. By using an "E" card or picture card, however, reasonably accurate testing can be done, though sometimes great patience is needed.



The following table gives the numbers and percentages of children examined and requiring treatment over the past five years: —

Year	No. of children examined	Total No. requiring treatment	% requiring treatment	No. with visual defects requiring treatment	% with visual defects requiring treatment
1968	2751	314	11.4	189	6.8
1969	3127	335	10.7	171	5.5
1970	2871	284	9.9	139	4.9
1971	2326	237	10.2	116	4.0
1972	2887	317	11.0	169	5.8

Table A on page 85 shows the number of children referred for treatment in the various age groups.

In 1972 special inspections numbered 13 and reinspections 541 (see table B on page 85).

Table D on page 86 gives the number and type of defects found at both periodic and special examinations which required treatment or observation.

**Cleanliness Inspections:**

These are carried out by the school nurses every term in the infant and junior schools. Routine examinations of secondary school children have not been made for many years, though individual older pupils are seen from time to time and classes of children of any age are examined at the request of a Head Teacher.

Approximately 1% of all children examined showed evidence of infestation with lice or nits. The numbers seem to be increasing again, a disappointing trend that is even more marked in other parts of the country.

The table below and table C on page 85 give details.

Year	Total number of individual examinations	Total number of individual children found to be infested
1962	4,267	6
1963	5,772	8
1964	10,724	5
1965	8,446	7
1966	6,325	4
1967	4,565	9
1968	3,525	8
1969	3,925	16
1970	20,860	141
1971	11,009	15
1972	11,306	100

## MEDICAL TREATMENT

### School Clinics:

Except for the Child Guidance Clinic, all are held in the main clinic premises in Stoke Abbott Road behind the Town Hall. The services are also available to pre-school children under section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946; and the statistics are given separately on page 37 et seq. In the tables and figures which follow the numbers include both pre-school and school age children.

#### (a) *Minor Ailments Clinic :*

A clinic is held each morning to deal with common minor infections of the skin, eye or ear. The children are normally referred from school medical inspections, or are sent in by teachers or health visitors. Sometimes they are brought along by parents. These clinics also form a clearing house for the preliminary investigation of all types of defect. They have been found particularly useful for treating verrucae. During the year 117 children made 525 attendances. A comparison with earlier years is shown below: —

Total number of attendances :

1963	..	..	..	..	168
1964	..	..	..	..	170
1965	..	..	..	..	186
1966	..	..	..	..	200
1967	..	..	..	..	225
1968	..	..	..	..	133
1969	..	..	..	..	293
1970	..	..	..	..	468
1971	..	..	..	..	570
1972	..	..	..	..	525

#### (b) *Physiotherapy Clinic :*

The physiotherapist, until her resignation at the beginning of December, held sessions in the clinic on two afternoons each week. Children were referred for treatment by the school doctors and by general practitioners.

The following figures summarise the work of the physiotherapist during the year: —

New patients treated	..	..	50	(139)
Old patients treated	..	..	38	(26)
Total number treated (new and old)			88	(165)
Total number of attendances	..		659	(637)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

#### (c) *Eye Clinic:*

This is held every Tuesday afternoon. Refraction is carried out and spectacles prescribed when necessary. Most of the children seen have impaired vision due to refractive errors. Some have squints. During the year 4 children with squints needed operative treatment and many were treated by the orthoptist (see below).



Number of sessions	..	..	36	(36)
New patients seen	..	..	117	(126)
Old patients seen	..	..	147	(149)
Total number seen (new and old)			264	(275)
Total number for whom glasses prescribed	..	..	73	(80)
Total number of attendances	..		383	(406)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

(d) *Orthoptic Clinic :*

Treatment by the orthoptist is given in the clinic on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, and all day on Monday. The children concerned have all been referred by a Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon.

Orthoptic treatment consists essentially of stereoscopic exercises for the muscles controlling eye movements in an attempt to give binocular vision. The instruments used for this are called synoptophores. A squinting eye, untreated, may cause double vision, but more usually vision is suppressed and the eye becomes useless and blind for all practical purposes. Treatment is most effective between the ages of 4 and 6.

Number of sessions	..	..	155	(159)
New patients treated	..	..	40	(88)
Old patients treated	..	..	94	(68)
Total number treated (new and old)			134	(156)
Total number of attendances	..		462	(550)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

(e) *Speech Therapy Clinic:*

The post of speech therapist remained unfilled throughout 1972 despite repeated advertisements.

(f) *Child Guidance Clinic:*

The Child Guidance Clinic in Southey Road is under the direction of a Consultant Psychiatrist, Dr. M. Aldridge, and open each week day.

Children are usually referred to the Child Guidance Clinic by school doctors or general practitioners, but access is directly and freely available to teachers and parents.

The Worthing clinic serves a wide area and the work summary which follows only refers to children living or attending schools in the Borough, details of which have been kindly supplied by the Child Guidance Clinic: —

## 1. Referral:

Referred by	5 years & under		6-11 years		12-16 years		17 years & over		All ages		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
School Medical Officer ...	1	—	1	1	3	—	—	—	5	1	6
Courts and Probation Officers ...	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	4	1	5
Parents and others ...	—	—	6	3	7	3	—	1	13	7	20
General Practitioners ...	1	1	12	11	4	4	—	—	17	16	33
Social Services Dept. ...	—	1	4	1	1	4	—	—	5	6	11
Head Teachers ...	—	—	4	2	6	7	—	1	10	10	20
Education Department ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2
Hospitals ...	—	—	1	2	1	2	—	—	2	4	6
Health Visitors ...	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	1	3
Educational Psychologist .	—	1	8	2	1	2	—	—	9	5	14
Others ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	2
Totals	3	3	37	23	29	24	—	3	69	53	122

From this table it will be seen that General Practitioners, parents and head teachers were the largest sources of referral. Half the children were in the age range 6-11.

## 2. Investigation:

Number of children investigated at the Child Guidance Clinic during the year and found to be:

(a) In need of child guidance help ..	90
(b) Not in need of child guidance help ..	24
Total ..	114

## 3. Treatment:

No. of children treated during year ..	54
No. of children awaiting treatment on 31.12.72	36

### (g) Obesity Clinic:

This Clinic is held once a fortnight at the Central Clinic, under the supervision of Dr. A. M. Lowry, School Medical Officer.

The treatment consists of a combination of physiotherapy, psychotherapy, regular weighing, diet control and where necessary the use of Ponderax tablets. It is not proposed to use at any time the habit forming drugs, particularly the amphetamine group, so as to avoid the risk of addiction.

Dr. Lowry reports: —

“Total attendances at the obesity clinic numbered 154, and 24 girls and 8 boys were sent as new patients. 18 girls and 8 boys were discharged as having reduced their weight to within normal limits for their height and bone structure.

This clinic continues to have an astonishingly high attendance rate, and it is very rare that a child fails to keep an appointment—or to phone



or write an explanation. In other words the patients are extremely conscientious and very keen.

But far too many overweight school children never attend for treatment, usually because they are encouraged by their mothers that (a) 'you'll always be fat because it runs in the family,' (b) 'that its only puppy fat and will just disappear' or (c) 'it isn't wise to diet at your age.'

Each of these statements is untrue, and usually an excuse to avoid responsibility. Most children—particularly the girls will take endless trouble, and make great sacrifices in order to be able to wear stock size, chain-store clothes. But without the co-operation and indeed the encouragement of the mothers—nothing can be done.

Perhaps this is a potentially rich field for Health Education—not for the children—but for their parents."

#### (h) *Enuresis Clinic* :

Dr. Lowry reports: —

"The bed-wetting (enuretic) clinic has continued as a weekly session with 22 girls and 20 boys attending as new patients. The total attendance for the year was 295 and 12 girls and 20 boys were discharged cured.

At present the number of children on the waiting list for treatment is falling—and I am encouraged to believe that more and more doctors are now dealing with the problem as one of an illness eminently amenable to treatment, instead of giving the advice so often given to the mother in the past that 'the child will grow out of it in time, and you must be patient until then.'

It is quite inexcusable in this day and age—with the wide range of treatments for the problem of enuresis available—that any mother should be subjected to the burden of daily laundry and any child laden with remorse and guilt about a problem he himself is unable to solve. In the past too often enuresis was regarded as socially unacceptable, and a weakness to be hidden and never, ever discussed. Now along with such illnesses as depression, and mental instability, it is at last accepted as simply what it is—an illness requiring treatment."

## **DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT**

Report of the Area Dental Officer: —

"When one considers the fact that 37% of all adults over the age of 16 are completely without their own natural teeth and that only 3 out of every 1,000 adults have perfect teeth, the need for preventive dentistry becomes very apparent. To this end the year has been a milestone, in that in the summer we were fortunate to obtain the services of Mrs. C. Hodgson, a dental auxiliary. We were thus able to run a preventive dental clinic and children were given the benefit of twice yearly applications of topical fluorides, advice on home care, and where appropriate the use of the new fissure sealants.

Unfortunately in September we lost the services of Miss Iland our dental officer and so we were once again short staffed. The mobile dental

caravan seems to be much appreciated by patients and schools and has helped greatly to reduce our number of failed appointments and wastage of time.

Looking to the future one can only hope that the Government will at last correct the anomaly whereby tax on toothbrushes and pastes is higher than on sweets and confectionery. It is to be hoped also that the reorganisation of the N.H.S. will bring about an integration of the dental services for the benefit of the patient and community.”

**School Inspections**

Number of half day sessions	..	..	..	39	(40)
Number of children inspected	..	..	..	10,503	(10,217)
Average number of children seen per inspection	..			270	(2,554)
Number referred for treatment	..	..	..	4,273	(3,848)
Number actually treated	..	..	..	1,450	(1,105)

In 1972 all children in Worthing schools (except absentees) had a dental inspection, and the total number now accepting treatment from the Local Authority School Dental Service is 2,005.

**Dental Treatment**

Number of half-day sessions at clinic	..	..	459	(396)
Number of half-day sessions at mobile dental caravan			430	(348)
Number of attendances made	..	..	5,796	(5,426)
Average attendance per session	..	..	6.5	(7.2)
Number of failed or cancelled appointments		..	588	(713)

Percentage of failed or cancelled appointments:—Clinic 11.7%, caravan 9.7%, overall 10%.

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

**HANDICAPPED PUPILS**

The Education Act of 1944 made it the duty of every Local Education Authority to find out what children in the area needed special educational treatment. This “ascertainment” remains one of the most important functions of the School Medical Officer. All handicapped children over the age of two are his concern, and he maintains his supervision throughout their school life.

Table G on page 89 shows the number of handicapped children requiring special educational treatment in each of the ten categories. At the end of 1972 there were 133 children on the registers of special schools (92 day pupils and 32 boarders) compared with 128 in 1971. In addition seven children were in full-time attendance at the partially hearing unit in Downsbrook County Primary School. There were 38 emotionally disturbed children attending part-time at the Remedial Centre in Richmond Road. No children were being educated in hospital but four were receiving home tuition.



During the year 16 children were assessed as needing special educational treatment and 14 were suitably placed. Three were still awaiting placement at the end of the year. The 16 children who were assessed comprised ten educationally subnormal, four maladjusted and two physically handicapped.

## OTHER SERVICES

### Provision of School Milk and Meals :

#### 1. Milk

Children in the following categories are eligible for free milk: —

- (a) pupils in special schools
- (b) pupils in other maintained schools up to the end of the summer term following reaching the age of seven; and
- (c) other pupils aged between seven and twelve for whom a school medical officer certifies the need on health grounds.

#### 2. Meals

The following figures refer to the financial year 1972/73 (with those for 1971/72 in brackets: —

Total number of meals served	..	..	1,426,997	(1,344,798)
Daily average number of children taking meals			7,004	(7,041)
Percentage of children taking meals	..		61.9%	(62.5%)

### Health Education in Schools:

Full details will be found on page 43 of this report of the work in schools by the Health Education Organiser.

School nurses continued to give talks on parentcraft and hygiene as part of the curriculum in some of the schools.

### Medical Examination of Entrants to Teachers' Training Colleges

No. of examinations for admission to Training Colleges	.	72	(67)
No. of examinations for entry to the teaching profession		3	(10)
No. of examinations of teachers for other Authorities	.	2	(5)
	TOTAL	..	77 (82)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

### School Hygiene and Sanitation:

Public Health Inspectors made visits to schools in connection with the following matters:

Kitchen Inspections	..	..	..	..	45	(34)
Food and Ice Cream Sampling	..	..	..	..	6	(18)
Swimming Bath Sampling	..	..	..	..	32	(14)
Disinfestation (ants, rats, etc.)	..	..	..	..	11	(12)
	Total number of visits	..			94	(78)

(The figures in brackets refer to 1971)

# INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN SCHOOL CHILDREN

The number of confirmed cases of notifiable infectious disease in school children during the year was as follows: —

Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	3
Measles	..	..	..	..	8
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	1

# DEATHS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

The causes of death among children of school age (i.e. 5-15 years) for Worthing registered during 1972 were: —

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia 1 (boy aged 10).

# ROAD ACCIDENTS TO SCHOOL CHILDREN

Sixty-one school children were involved in road accidents in Worthing during 1972, an increase of three over the previous year. The details were: —

Fatally injured	..	..	..	—
Seriously injured	..	..	..	9 (5 M, 4 F)
Slightly injured	..	..	..	52 (30 M, 22 F)
TOTAL				61

The total of 61 was made up of 18 cyclists (10 male and 8 female); 25 pedestrians (14 male and 11 female); and 16 car passengers (10 male and 6 female).

The total also includes one female pillion passenger seriously injured and one male moped rider slightly injured.

From 1st January 1972 “children” included those up to 15 years of age (previously 14 years) and in addition to the above figures, 2 children under school age were seriously and 10 slightly injured, 2 in the 15-16 age group seriously and 6 slightly injured. Total in these age groups—20.

Overall total of children up to 15 years of age—81.



**Secondary School during the year 1972**  
**Medical inspection of pupils attending maintained Primary and**

**TABLE A — PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS**

Age Groups inspected (By year of birth)	No. of pupils who have received a full medical examination	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED		Pupils found to require treatment (excluding dental diseases and infestation with vermin)		
		Satisfactory No.	Unsatisfactory No.	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any other condition	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1968 and later	3	3	—	—	—	—
1967	624	623	1	15	40	53
1966	437	437	—	13	36	48
1965	61	61	—	3	4	7
1964	47	47	—	3	3	5
1963	58	58	—	4	2	6
1962	245	245	—	18	5	23
1961	438	438	—	25	24	48
1960	287	287	—	27	16	43
1959	78	78	—	7	2	9
1958	57	57	—	4	3	7
1957 and earlier	552	552	—	50	20	68
Total	2887	2886	1	169	155	317

**TABLE B — OTHER INSPECTIONS**

NOTES—A special inspection is one that is carried out at the special request of a parent, doctor, nurse, teacher or other person.

A re-inspection is an inspection arising out of one of the periodic medical inspections or out of a special inspection.

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	13
Number of Re-inspections	..	..	541
			<hr/>
TOTAL	..		554
			<hr/>

**TABLE C — INFESTATION WITH VERMIN**

- (a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons, 11,300.
- (b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested, 110.
- (c) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944), nil.
- (d) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944), nil.

The numbers recorded at (b), (c) and (d) relate to individual pupils, and not to instances of infestation.

TABLE D — DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections				Special Inspections
		Entrants	Leavers	Others	Total	
4	Skin .. .. . T O	7 —	4 —	7 —	18 —	— —
5	Eyes—a. Vision .. .. T O	26 77	50 6	93 76	169 159	4 —
	b. Squint .. .. T O	6 5	— —	1 1	7 6	— —
	c. Other .. .. T O	— 1	— —	— 1	— 2	— —
6	Ears—a. Hearing .. .. T O	1 81	— 1	1 23	2 105	1 —
	b. Otitis Media .. .. T O	— 1	— —	— —	— 1	— —
	c. Other .. .. T O	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
7	Nose and Throat .. .. T O	8 8	— —	6 —	14 8	— —
8	Speech .. .. T O	1 3	— —	1 1	2 4	— —
9	Lymphatic Glands .. .. T O	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
10	Heart .. .. T O	1 11	1 —	1 1	3 12	— —
11	Lungs .. .. T O	6 1	— —	9 —	15 1	— —
12	Developmental—a. Hernia .. T O	— —	— —	1 2	1 2	— —
	b. Other .. .. T O	— 35	— —	3 17	3 52	— —
13	Orthopaedic—a. Posture .. T O	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
	b. Feet .. .. T O	6 —	3 —	7 —	16 —	— —
	c. Other .. .. T O	3 2	1 2	1 2	5 6	— —
14	Nervous System—a. Epilepsy .. T O	— —	— —	— 2	— 2	— —
	b. Other .. .. T O	— 1	— —	1 4	1 5	— —
15	Psychological—a. Development .. T O	— 1	— —	— —	— 1	— —
	b. Stability .. .. T O	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
16	Abdomen .. .. T O	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
17	Other .. .. T O	29 13	4 1	35 11	68 25	8 —

T—Treatment. O—Observation.



TABLE E—DENTAL TREATMENT (SCHOOL CHILDREN)—1972

TREATMENT	Age 5-9		Age 10-14		Age 15 and over	
	Permanent	Deciduous	Permanent	Deciduous	Permanent	Deciduous
Extractions (excluding orthodontic extractions)	27	132	147	113	17	—
Fillings	741	1,490	2,088	255	480	—
Permanent filling/permanent extraction ratio	17.4:1		14.2:1		28.2:1	
Radiographs	43	17	261	25	89	—
Local Anaesthetics	121		599		131	
General Anaesthetics (M.O.)	72		86		6	
General Anaesthetics (D.O.)	—		—		—	
Teeth made self-cleansing or stoned	2	432	14	100	—	—
Temporary dressings	22	63	81	18	28	—
Root canal treatment (1st)	1	14	11	2	7	—
Root canal treatment (sub)	2	—	18	—	21	—
Root canal treatment (comp)	1	—	8	—	6	—
Jacket crown (preparation)	—	—	1	—	4	—
Jacket crown (fit)	—	—	1	—	4	—
Temporary crown fit	—	—	1	—	4	—
Inlays preparation	—	—	—	—	1	—
Inlays fit	—	—	—	—	1	—
Bridge preparation	—	—	—	—	2	—
Bridge fit	—	—	—	—	2	—
Surgical	—	—	2	—	—	—
Scale and Polish	291	109	438	19	156	—
Topical Fluoride applications	322		362		70	
Fissure Sealants	40		32		4	

**TABLE F—DENTURES AND ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT  
(SCHOOL CHILDREN)—1972**

Treatment					Age 5-9	Age 10-14	Age 15 and over
Orthodontic extractions	...	...			2	82	2
Impression	...	...	...	...	3	71	20
Bite registration	...	...	...		—	21	9
Try in	...	...	...	...	—	—	6
Fit denture	...	...	...	...	—	—	8
Fit removable appliance	...	...			2	32	10
Upper partial	...	...	...		—	1	1
Lower partial	...	...	...		—	—	—
Upper full	...	...	...	...	—	—	3
Lower full	...	...	...	...	—	—	3
Ease	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Orthodontic appliance adjustment	...				13	231	43
Repairs	...	...	...	...	1	11	1



### TABLE C—HANDICAPPED CHILDREN, 1972

	(a) Blind	(b) Partially sighted	(c) Deaf	(d) Partially hearing	(e) Educationally sub-normal	(f) Epileptic	(g) Maladjusted	(h) Physically handicapped	(i) Speech defect	(j) Delicate	Total
A. Assessed during 1972 as needing special educational treatment at special schools or boarding homes ..	—	—	—	—	10	—	4	2	—	—	16
B. Placed in special schools or boarding homes during year (including those assessed before 1st January, 1972) .. ..	—	—	—	—	14	—	4	2	—	—	20
C. Awaiting placement on 21st January, 1973 (a) in day schools .. (b) in boarding schools ..	— —	— —	— —	— —	2 —	— —	— 1	— —	— —	— —	2 1
D. (1) Number on the registers of (i) Maintained special schools as (a) Day pupils .. (b) Boarding pupils (ii) Non-maintained special schools as (a) Day pupils .. (b) Boarding pupils (iii) Independent schools (2) Numbers boarded out in homes and not included above .. ..	— — — — — —	— — — 2 — —	— — — — — —	— — — 3 1 —	91 9 — — — —	— — — — — —	— 6 — 2 5 —	1 4 — 2 3 —	— — — 1 — —	— — — 3 — —	92 19 1 13 9 —
TOTAL : D (1) and (2)	—	2	—	4	100	—	13	10	1	3	133
E. Number receiving education (a) in hospitals .. (b) in other groups .. (c) at home ..	— — —	— — —	— — —	— 7 —	— — 1	— — —	— 38 1	— 6 —	— — —	— — 4	— 51 6

(NOTE: This table excludes children attending the Remedial Centre, the Partially Hearing Unit and hospital schools)













